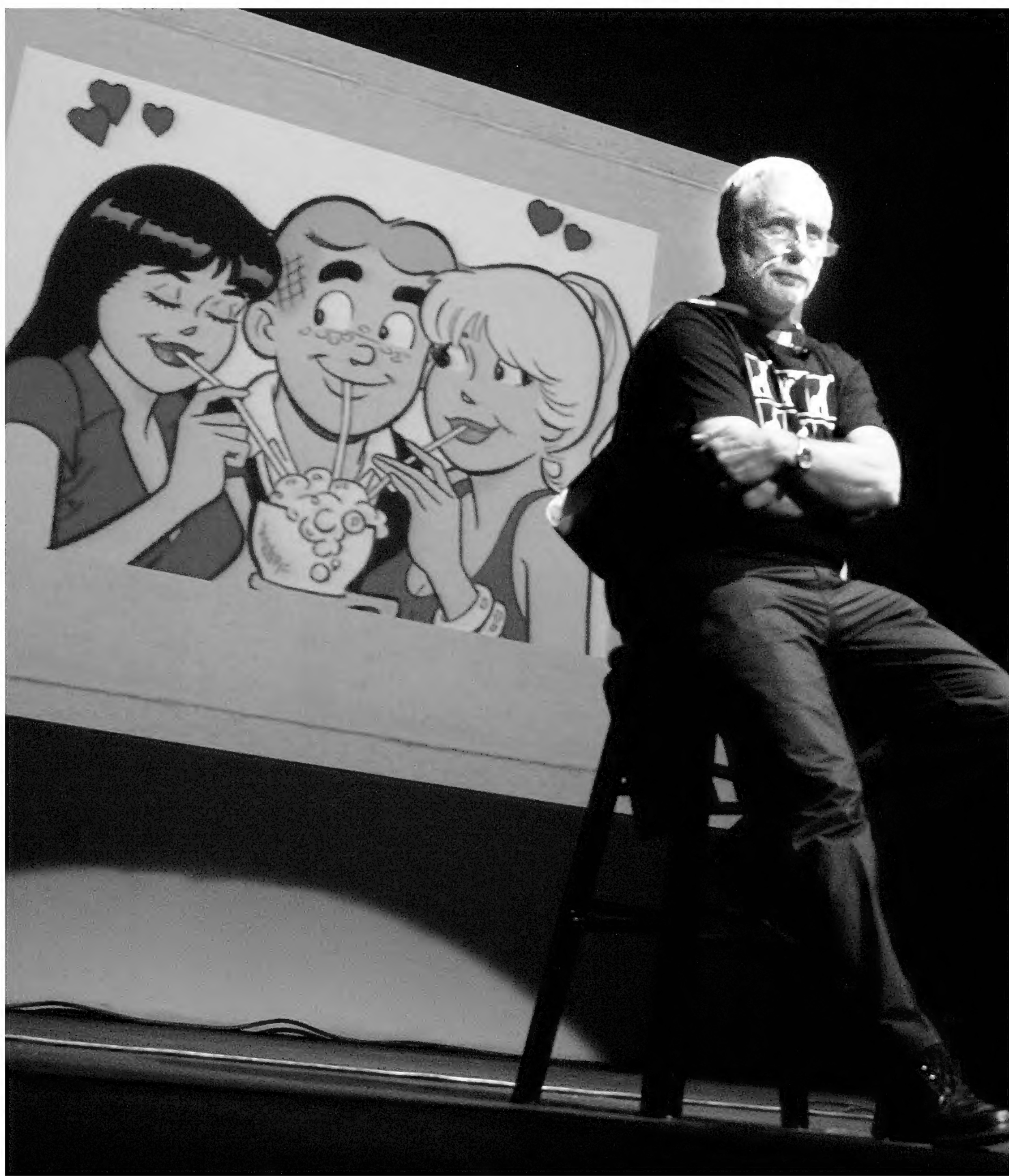


THE GATEWAY

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SAM BROOKS

SEX SELLS Jay Ingram lectures at the Myer Horowitz on Wednesday in honour of Charles Darwin's 200th birth

Darwin's sexy science makes sweet melody

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

The field of evolutionary psychology is often described as unique for its salacious mixing of sexual nuances and the fact of scientific discourse, but for Jay Ingram, U of A alumnus and host of the science news broadcast *Daily Planet*, there's another discipline perfectly paired with the habitually book-bound topic.

"There are plenty of lyrics in the blues that you could look at and say, 'that's actually describing an evolutionary principle,'" Ingram said, referring to the musical genre which accompanied him in his lecture at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Wednesday.

At first, the two might not seem to have much common, but evolutionary psychology, according to Ingram, shares much with the musical genre.

His lecture titled "Darwin's Sexy Science" — being offered in the 200th anniversary year of Darwin's birth — is one performed.

"Once you've done it, you kind of think it's pretty obvious. When you're talking about human mating behaviour, there is no other music than the blues that goes with it perfectly. The blues is all about human mating, and mating behaviour goes with the blues," he said.

The biological differences between men and women, Ingram continued, can be traced back through history to our evolutionary roots.

"If you look at it from a strictly

evolutionary point of view, the goal is to reproduce. The fact is that men and women are different enough biologically that their strategies for reproducing as efficiently as possible have to be different," he explained.

"Women invest way more in the birth of a child than men do. I'm not talking about modern society where men and women bring in half the money each. Strictly from a biological point of view, the woman is pregnant for nine months, [and] she nurses."

"The blues is all about human mating, and mating behaviour goes with the blues."

JAY INGRAM
HOST, DAILY PLANET

These biological differences result in different strategies for optimizing reproductive output, and these simple rules, when projected over the intricacy of modern human interaction, make for dynamic conversation.

But while the reconciliation of the our sexual history with the superficial themes of a musical genre might seem far-fetched, for Ingram, who obtained his B.Sc. in microbiology from the U of A, the combination is easy to get around.

PLEASE SEE INGRAM ♦ PAGE 2

New restriction on graduate student pay will be tied to scholarships

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
News Staff

A cap on graduate stipends at the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Alberta could see some students receive less departmental funding just because they've earned a scholarship.

Since 1999, the department has provided a minimum stipend to their graduate students to ensure that they can focus on their research while at the University. In January 2009, the department enacted policy that raised the minimum stipend to \$22,000 per year for domestic students and \$28,000 per year for international students.

A second change to the policy, which will come into effect in January 2010, will ensure that financial aid is distributed more equally to all students by capping financial compensation at \$30,000 per year.

The cap, however, takes into account scholarships received by students in addition to stipends from the department.

If a student receives a scholarship in an amount that puts them over the cap, they will

only receive enough financial support through the departmental stipend to take them to their maximum funding allowance.

Fraser Forbes, the department's chair, stated that all students are guaranteed a minimum income on which to live in order to conduct their thesis work.

The policy coming forth will allow for departmental funding to be more evenly distributed among students.

"The only feedback I've gotten from students has been thanking us for increasing the minimum support levels to more livable standards. I think what you're seeing is an unhappy few; they fundamentally do not understand that they are receiving financial support to conduct their research," Forbes said.

The money for student financial support comes from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. NSERC sets their maximum support levels at \$16,500 for master's students and \$19,000 for doctoral students, but U of A students receive a minimum stipend that is much higher than that. Forbes said that many students are not aware of this.

PLEASE SEE GSA ♦ PAGE 4



PETE YEE

CAP THAT! Manolescu, GSA VP of labour relations outlines why the salary cap doesn't irk grad students.

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Making the band

Take a peek into the inner workings of The Fest, an homage to all things punk, rock, and everything in between.

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Breaking the rules

What NHL rule changes would we implement had we the power? Get comfortable — we've got a long list.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Pocketball and Left 4 Dead 2.

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“I'll make the point right now. Just because we don't have mics doesn't mean you can shout out.

CRAIG TURNER
Council Speaker

—on council's conduct while the council chamber's microphones are unavailable during an upgrade

COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Jonathan Taves

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6 p.m. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 24, where free food will be provided for all attendees.

EMPTYING POCKETS

Council heard another presentation from Provost and Vice President (Academic) Carl Amrhein and Vice President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark on the \$59-million 2010/11 operating budget deficit.

The administration is proposing market modifiers on tuition for faculties that cost more to run — for example medicine, business and law. The administration is more in favour of this differential tuition system to make up the \$20 million of the gap students are expected to cover than they are for mandatory fees.

Council went *in camera* to hear the rest of the provost's discussion, in which he and deputy provost Dru Marshall outlined the exact numbers of market modified differential tuition that will be proposed to the provincial government later this week.

Council policy stipulates that media be

barred from the council chamber in an *in camera* session, and all other students and councillors sign a binding confidentiality agreement preventing anyone from discussing the information afterward. Amrhein went on to explain that this is necessary to prevent difficulties in negotiations with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology.

However, the numbers presented were the same ones brought forward by SU president Kory Mathewson in the council meeting on October 27. The increases will be grandfathered, with first year students taking on the full increases in 2010/11, and by 2012/13 the price jump will be absorbed by everyone.

The price jumps are proposed as follows, 66 per cent for Pharmacy (\$3,375 per year), 39 per cent for Business (\$2,000 per year), 35 per cent for Engineering (on average, \$2,040 per year), 35 per cent for Medicine (\$4,000 per year), 32 per cent for Law (\$3,151 per year), 21 per cent for Dentistry (\$4,000 per year), and three per cent for Economics, Design students in the Faculty of Arts, and Nutrition and Food Sciences in Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences (\$150 per year).

SPEAKING OUT

SU President Kory Mathewson spoke about the national student survey being conducted right now at canedproject.ca/survey.

The national survey is sponsored in part by the Council of Alberta University Students. He was happy

to report that U of A students represent around 16 per cent of the 11,000 responses so far, and said he hopes that trend continues.

HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?

Vice President (Student Life) Nick Dehod spoke about the apparent shortage of psychologists and counselling services available to U of A students.

He said that they're reviewing the possibility of charging for the services to increase quality. He noted his intent to make sure the fees would be covered by the SU health plan.

QUESTION PERIOD

The SU executive fielded a number of questions about their course of action following the administration's tuition presentation. Mathewson argued for the need for a long-term solution on the U of A staff's \$20 million portion of the deficit. He thinks the recently approved six furlough days to cut costs is merely a band-aid solution.

Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood stated her opposition to the market modifiers. She expressed how the SU's position argues that more money doesn't automatically equate to better program quality.

The SU would rather see user fees helping to bridge the gap. Mathewson also noted the SU's intention to strongly advocate for strong student financial aid programs as students' costs increase in coming years.

Convocation for reflection: Ingram

INGRAM ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Before *Daily Planet*, he hosted CBC Radio's *Quirks and Quarks*, taking the reins from David Suzuki, and has written several books on science in everyday life.

He's made it his business to distill scientific data for the masses. In fact, it was for that reason that Ingram found himself at the University on Wednesday.

In addition to giving a lecture, he was also in town to receive some appreciation for his biological expertise.

Ingram was on campus to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Science at the University's convocation ceremony on Wednesday afternoon — ironic, he said, considering his start into the world of science at the University.

“My last year at the U of A was not a standout academic year [...] I love science, but hate lab work. It took me a while to realize that, but I did and it started at the U of A, and the end result is I've had the career that I've had,” he said.

“There's an important lesson in it: when you get a degree, it's really a time to start questioning yourself. It is an achievement, but it's probably not the last one, and it's a great time to check your goals and the reasons for having them and questioning that. Am I doing this because I'm supposed to? These are questions to ask at your convocation.”

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Sean Steels and Sam Brooks

As you may be aware, it is Addiction Awareness Week.

What was the last addiction you had to break?

**Lisa Elliot**
Linguistics IV**Stan Huynh**
Business II**Mathew Semler**
Business II**Elya Park**
Arts IV

Facebook. It's an easy way to procrastinate and eat up time.

Coca-cola addiction. It was bad for my teeth according to my dentist, anyway. It's probably better to keep my teeth and stop drinking Coke.

Television — sports, shows, everything.

Obsessive compulsiveness. Basically lots of cleaning and making everything tidy, and making sure things go my way at work and school. [How did you break it?] Focusing on the big picture and realizing people do things in their own way

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U of A students blast off in Norway

Data collection was a priority for the crew of postsecondary students assigned to repurpose an ex-military rocket with sensory equipment for the program

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

Two University of Alberta students had the opportunity to build and launch a rocket at the Andoya Rocket Range in Norway last week.

The course is a pilot project put on by the University of Oslo, and the Institute for Space, Science, Exploration, and Technology.

About 20 students attended the program, including four Canadian undergraduates: one from the U of A, one from the University of Calgary, and two from the University of Saskatchewan. The other students that attended were from the U of O and the University of Tromsø in Norway.

James Huber, a third-year undergraduate in mechanical engineering, was selected to fill the U of A's spot. David Miles, a master's student in space physics, was invited to go on the trip in order to test his thesis project, a miniature magnetic field sensor.

The rocket itself was actually a repurposed military missile given to Andoya to use for educational purposes. The students were split into groups and each group was responsible for a specific aspect of the rocket, such as instruments, telemetry, and the rocket itself.

Throughout the week, the students attended lectures and built instruments before actually launching it on the second-last day.

"It was really interesting because they handled it like a professional, scientific rocket launch even though this is just a small, educational rocket. I think our countdown was an hour and we ran through a whole bunch of checks during that hour," Huber said.

The launch ran fairly smoothly, with only one hold in the countdown: some expensive ranging equipment failed to work, and the students had to gather their data using an older method.

"There's a big paper wheel, a scrolling thing of paper with a pen going up and down. And if everything else goes wrong, you at least have this pen going up and down to tell you how far away the rocket is at any particular time," Miles said. "[Researchers] understand that equipment crashes, things break and you have to launch anyways."

Collecting data is the biggest part of a rocket launch, and Miles said that



FIRE YOUR ENGINES Huber stands near the modified military rocket in Norway.

learning how data is collected is not something that Canadian students can readily experience.

"We have a very strong theoretical working group here, but in terms of getting instruction on how you would actually go and get this data, it's not something that we are particularly strong in right now," Miles said.

Huber said that for him, seeing where the data actually comes from makes the field of space exploration more real.

"It really made it concrete to actually be there, being taught by an actual rocket scientist, so it's encouraging. It shows it's something that just a regular guy like myself can get into," Huber said.

Miles stated that the opportunity for students to get experience outside of

the classroom is something that they should take advantage of.

"Science is supposed to be bringing people together, and all of the sudden we're actually achieving that. This is part of a whole construct for trying to manufacture opportunities for students to get involved so that, by the time you finish your university career, you're ready to do this for real," Miles stated.

Melanie Faulknor of ISSET said that the program is something they're hoping to expand on in future years after the success of this trip.

"We were so excited for them to go and we're so excited for things like this in the future. This is the type of thing that ISSET wants to do more of, so CaNoRock was a really big thing for us."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Sean Steels

I WANT MY GRANDPA!

Just after 4 a.m. on November 14, a resident of Newton Place reported that a non-affiliated female followed her into the building wanting to visit her grandfather. CSS attended and upon searching the building located three street youth sleeping at the top of a stairwell.

One of the youth was placed under arrest for trespassing and later released with a summons. Another was found to have a knife in his possession and was subsequently trespassed. The group was escorted off of University property.

A SINISTER CALLING CARD

On the morning of November 14, Edmonton Police notified CSS that they

had received a call from a resident of Lister Centre who apparently had an unknown male break into his room.

CSS attended and spoke with the resident. The suspect apparently entered the suite, which was unlocked, and placed a wet paper towel on the bed before leaving. CSS conducted a search of the building but the suspect was not located.

BOOZE IT, LOSE IT

Around 10 p.m. on November 14, CSS officers stopped a vehicle for driving without taillights on 114 Street and University Avenue. The driver was displaying signs of impairment and was placed under arrest for impaired driving.

Edmonton Police attended and arrested the driver for impaired driving. His vehicle was towed.

AT LEAST HE'S HONEST!

At about 1 a.m. on November 15, a non-affiliated male approached a University Watch member and said he would be sleeping in HUB for the night as it was

too cold outside.

CSS members attended and identified the male. Officers explained that the University was private property and directed the male off campus via transit.

LESS THAN INGENUOUS

Around 6 a.m. on November 15, a non-affiliated male and female were found sleeping in SUB. Both were identified and the female was issued a trespass notice as she had provided a false name. They were directed off campus.

GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT


On November 16, a non-affiliated male and female entered an office in the Students' Union building and began accusing a University staff member of causing damage to their vehicle in an off-campus location.

CSS attended and identified both the individuals. They were directed to report any sort of hit-and-run to the Edmonton Police and escorted off campus.

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Timms tour reveals theatre history

ANDREA LUFT
News Writer

Larry Clark was amazed when he first arrived at the University of Alberta's Timms Centre for the Arts. A theatre with a backstage space of its magnitude not only sets a high standard for students to live up to, but the facilities also allow students to feel the closeness of performing that is so conducive to learning, especially in the final preparations leading up to the Centre's next show, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*.

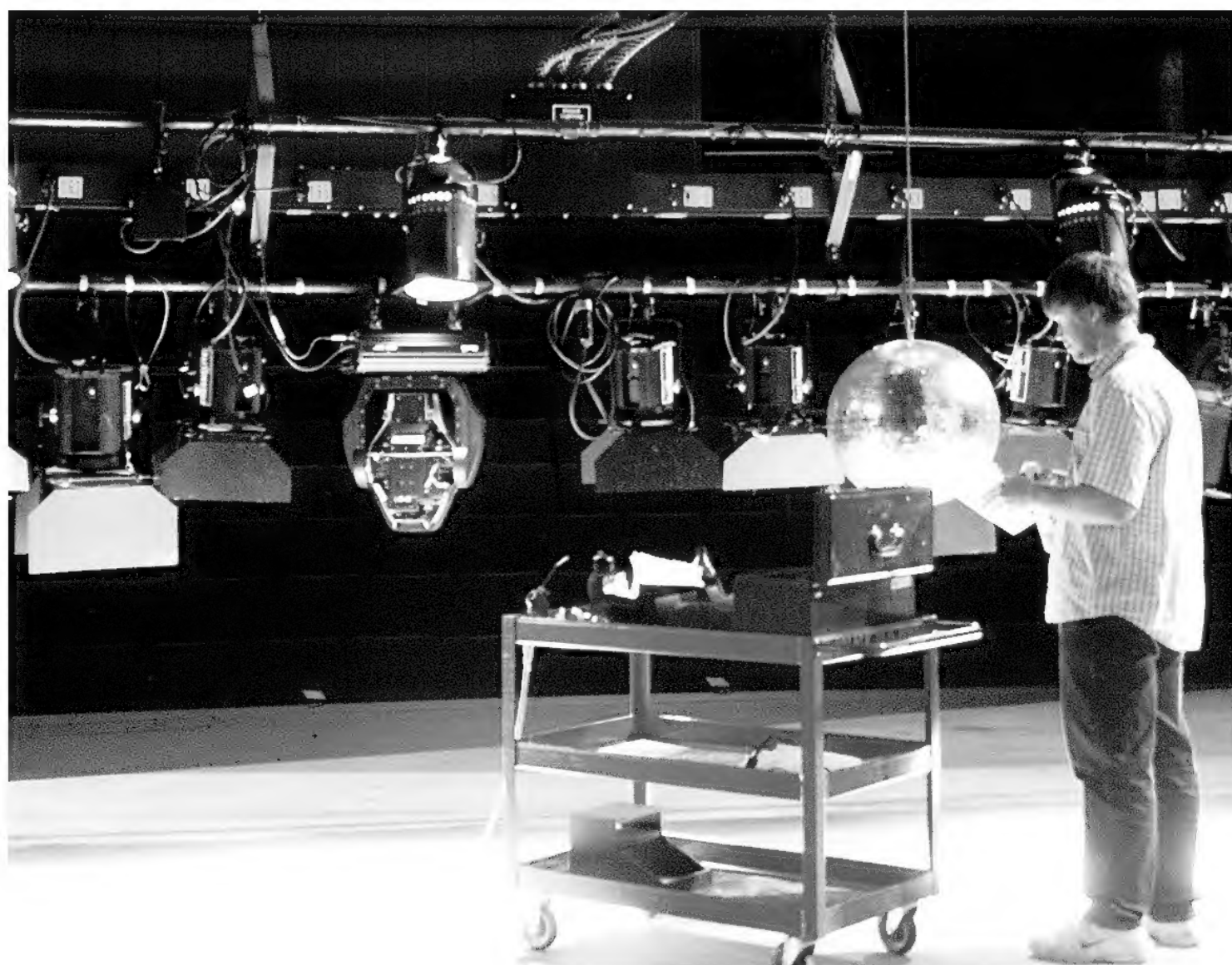
The Timms Centre is a spectacular building both inside and out, explained Clark, the Department of Drama's technical director, who also moonlights as a tour guide. The facility is unique compared to other theatres in its academic purpose.

"It is run by academic schedules of the students, more than the theatre season," Clark said, but also noted he doesn't mind the extra time necessary to get a show up and running.

"It is about the journey," he explained.

The Timms Centre was opened in 1995 — extremely fortunate considering this was on the tail end of the last recession. Around the time this building opened, several other theatres were substantially cutting costs, if not closing their doors. Clark noted how the facility is world class in many ways, with more backstage space and a bigger production booth than most "professional" theatres. The facility is perfect for teaching and allows six professional-level productions to be put on annually.

Clark spoke very fondly of the production booth and its possibilities. The



LISA LIN

THE SOUND OF SILENCE The Timms Centre stage sits ready for its next opening.

area, built to be a teaching space, is far larger than a standard booth, accommodating upwards of 30 people if necessary, whereas most booth spaces accommodate three.

"[We want students to have] enough experience to succeed at the professional level," Clark said.

To do this, performers must not only learn to act, but to act professionally.

"[The level of professionalism] of the performers needs to meet the level of facility they are given. Here we develop a great work ethic; they learn their [craft] but also learn to sweep up after themselves, literally."

At the Timms Centre, it's apparent that, while performers play an integral role, the behind-the-scenes crew is the lifeline of the theatre. The stock room, a room literally the size of a lecture theatre, is filled with clothes, all catalogued

and ordered, complete with a shoes room the size of a student apartment.

Without the students who design the sets and the props, and without the full time staff who catalogue, sew, and occasionally build life-size swans out of wire and pool noodles, it's clear that the productions would never get off the ground. In fact, the set design and technology end of the theatre is a large area of study for many students.

Working with the theatre has given Clark many fond memories, but he still recalls what ran through his mind when he first gazed out into its seats.

"Did somebody miss something? We are about 12,000 seats short," he said. "[But that's fine] because the goal [of the theatre] is to be an academic space [...] to make this the most effective it was important to keep the environment intimate."

Old payment agreements could be altered by policy

GSA ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We have to work really hard to find the excess money, which could be as much as \$8,500 a year. It takes a lot of effort to get past those maximum pay levels so that every student is advantaged to the maximum degree that we can," Forbes said.

Hector De la Hoz Siegler, president of the Chemical and Materials Engineering Graduate Students' Association, said that some students have approached his group with concerns.

"There have been

sort of mixed reactions: some people are OK with the new structure, some people are a little angry about that," De la Hoz Siegler said. "The group of people that have really high value scholarships are those that really get affected by this policy."

De la Hoz Siegler said that his concern is for current students who already have been receiving income over the cap because of previous payment agreements.

"If, before coming here, they talk to their supervisors, and let's say they agree on something, but it was just a conversation, and they agree 'I'm going to get this payment plus any scholarship I make,' and they make their decision to come here based on that — this could be a change to their common-law contract," he said.

De la Hoz Siegler also expressed concern that this policy could make the department less attractive to incoming scholarship students.

"My concern is that that can [deter] those students that get scholarships to not come to the department, because at other universities, they can get more money. So there is some potential to affect the top students," he said.

Even after bringing these concerns to the department, De la Hoz Siegler says that for this year, nothing much can be

done; but, if there are any substantial changes to enrolment, he says the department did say they may review the policy next year.

Dan Manolescu, vice president of labour relations in the U of A's Graduate Students' Association (GSA), stated that the Engineering department's policy adheres to the association's collective agreement.

"We have a collective agreement, and as long as their maximum [amount of funding] is above our minimum, we have no problem," he said.

Manolescu also said that the GSA would move to ensure that no grandfathering now occurs. He echoed De la Hoz Siegler's concern that if a student chooses the U of A because of a specific rationale, their program should remain the same throughout their studies.

"The only feedback I've gotten from students has been thanking us for increasing the minimum support levels to more livable standards."

FRASER FORBES
CHAIR, CHEMICAL & MATERIAL ENG.

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Western view of Taliban blinded

THE WESTERN WORLD WATCHED THIS PAST August as the Middle East's most recent democratic pilot project, Afghanistan, went to the polls to exercise their right to vote. Unfortunately, watching was all they really did.

Widespread allegations of blatant election fraud stained the vote, and a review by the U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission determined a run-off election was indeed necessary to obtain the majority to win. Now, numerous world leaders sided vocally with the ECC in calling for another election. But incumbent Hamid Karzai's closest competitor, Abdullah Abdullah, was unconvinced the run-off would be conducted fairly and dropped out of the race.

Despite NATO's declared goal of establishing an independent, flourishing democracy in the country, the reluctance to put Karzai's seemingly criminal re-election under the microscope just adds to the list of blunders that could very well cause the democracy's collapse, just after its rocky beginning.

Just consider British Foreign Secretary David Miliband's recent charge that Afghanistan's parliament should include "high-level [Taliban] commanders that can be persuaded to renounce al-Qaeda and pursue their goals peacefully." The world must stop affording the Taliban respect it doesn't deserve. Its fighters want a restored regime of merciless oppression of women and non-Muslims, along with brutally upheld moral and cultural standards that ban art, music, and computers, among many other equally preposterous constraints. Are these the goals that the Taliban should be allowed to work towards "peacefully"?

Karzai's previous administration was marred by allegations of corruption, a detriment the president has vowed to rectify in his next five years. But this promise seems laughable, given how he came to "earn" his second term. Legitimacy of the government's authority is critical, and an election won by fraud takes that away. Karzai, too, has promised to reach out to the Taliban to gain support for his government.

By talking to these people at all, Karzai is playing a dangerous game of appeasement. It still gives back a sliver of a claim to the power they never should have held in the first place. Afghanistan is after all made of diverse ethnic groups, and should strive for a government that fairly represents a wide range of interests. The Taliban doesn't represent anything that could be remotely attributed to a healthy democracy.

It should only take a brief perusal of the regime's history to convince anyone that the actions the Taliban have inflicted upon the Afghan people are atrocious, but it would seem that some in the international community need convincing of why the Taliban shouldn't be considered an interest group, much less an organization allowed any real power. True, they have a considerable amount of support and control, but that support comes from a fearful minority who believe the Taliban's dogmatic, backward rules are legitimized by divine right.

Though the overly ambiguous western term of "terrorist" is applied to Taliban combatants, the greatest enemy of Afghanistan's struggling democracy is still ideological. Limiting technology and the educational potential of half its citizens, can't be the goals of anyone hoping to establish a country that can provide for its people and compete on the international stage.

In the interest of peace and stability, Miliband effectively invites to government the same people that threatened cutting off the fingers, noses, and ears of Afghans lining up to cast their vote and for their representative in that government.

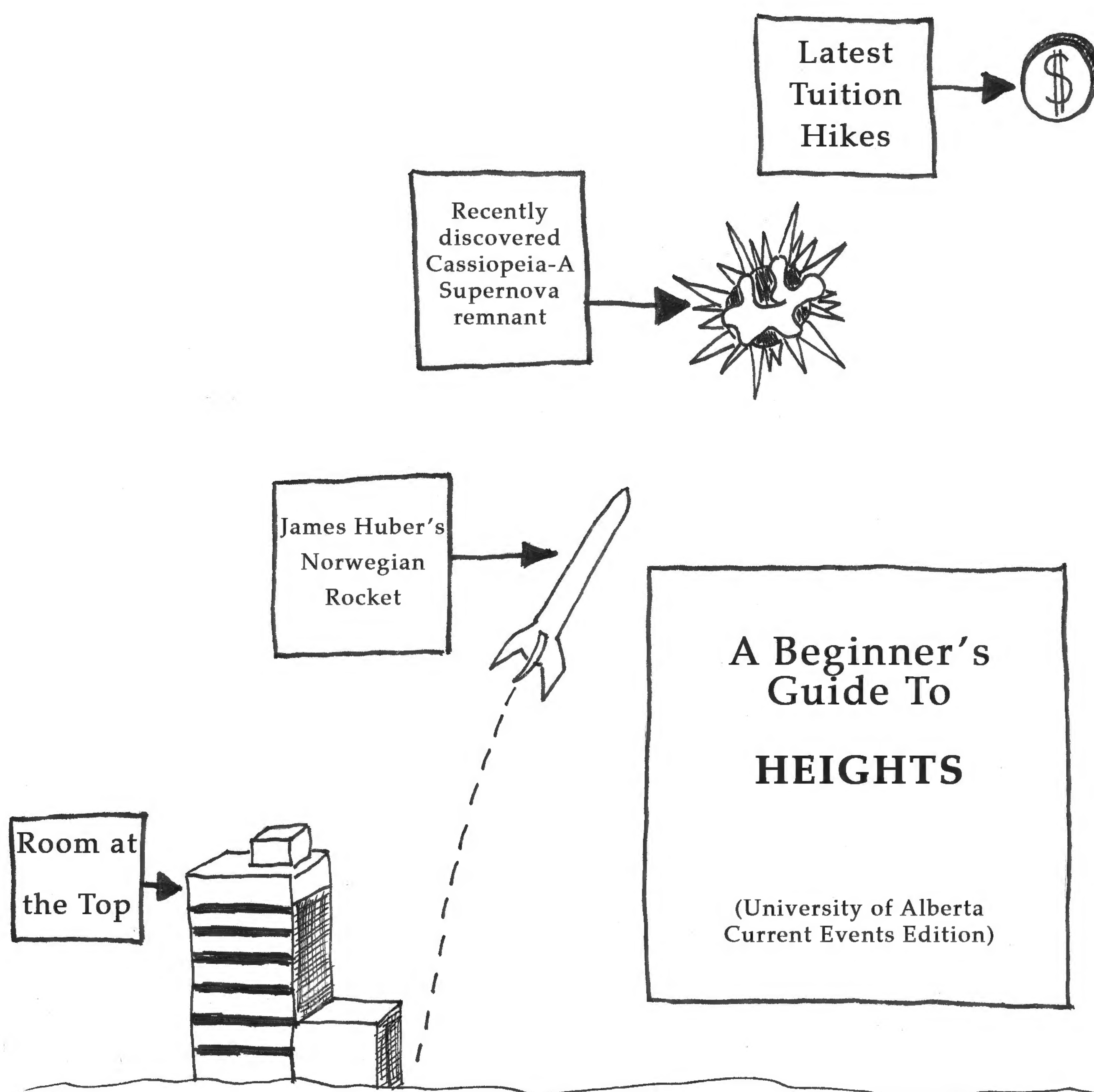
The western world must ultimately admit that reassurances of limited power and influence within a parliamentary system do nothing to detract from how things would be, or have been, run when a fundamentalist group has run things entirely their own way.

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

With Brooding Action!

New Moon opens soon —
Clearly my Rob Pattinson
Voodoo doll failed. Damn.

DAVID JOHNSTON
And all the gurlies say I'm pretty flu for a white boy



DAVID JOHNSTON

letters TO THE eds

Murder most foul

How can the murder of a three-year-old boy be "one small slip up"? How many dead civilians does it take for things to be a problem? Mr. Yeo's Draconian notion ("Shoot-to-kill policy is murder" November 17) that shooting anyone who remotely resembles a threat no matter what age, to prevent children from being used as suicide bombers, ranks amongst the most offensive things I have ever heard. Mr. Yeo's suggestion that police should not use non-lethal weapons, as they would remove incentives for them to not use their weapons, is a fallacy as it implies that lethal weapons are not currently being used indiscriminately.

However, the death of this child shows the police are not hesitating at all. The realities of crime in South Africa are no doubt harsh, and policing is no doubt an extremely difficult task, yet the difficulty of the task does not allow one to throw up their hands and accept indiscriminate murder. When it comes to the murder of innocents, the ends never justify the means.

GRANT CRAWFORD
Economics IV

Science does not work that way

When did stories declaring the existence of perpetual motion machines

become respectable enough to put in a newspaper? ("Ottawa physicist cracks Newton's Law" November 17) Rather than declaring Heins' invention as having passed the "prototyping and proof of concept phase," why not admit that it has never been shown to actually create energy or create a self-sustaining system? If you cannot leave it alone without adding energy to make it keep going, it is not "literally defying the laws of physics."

This story is nothing but pseudoscience given by someone with no science background, about a topic almost ridiculous in its assumptions. Heins is not a physicist — he dropped out of an electronics program in college and then got a degree as a chef. The explanation given that "The machine works by overloading the generator to get a current, which causes wire coil, by which the magnets pass to build up a large electromagnetic field," makes it obvious that this story is not worth listening to. Unless "[causing] wire coil" and "by which the magnets pass" actually means anything. At most, Heins may have created a generator that has some interesting efficiency properties.

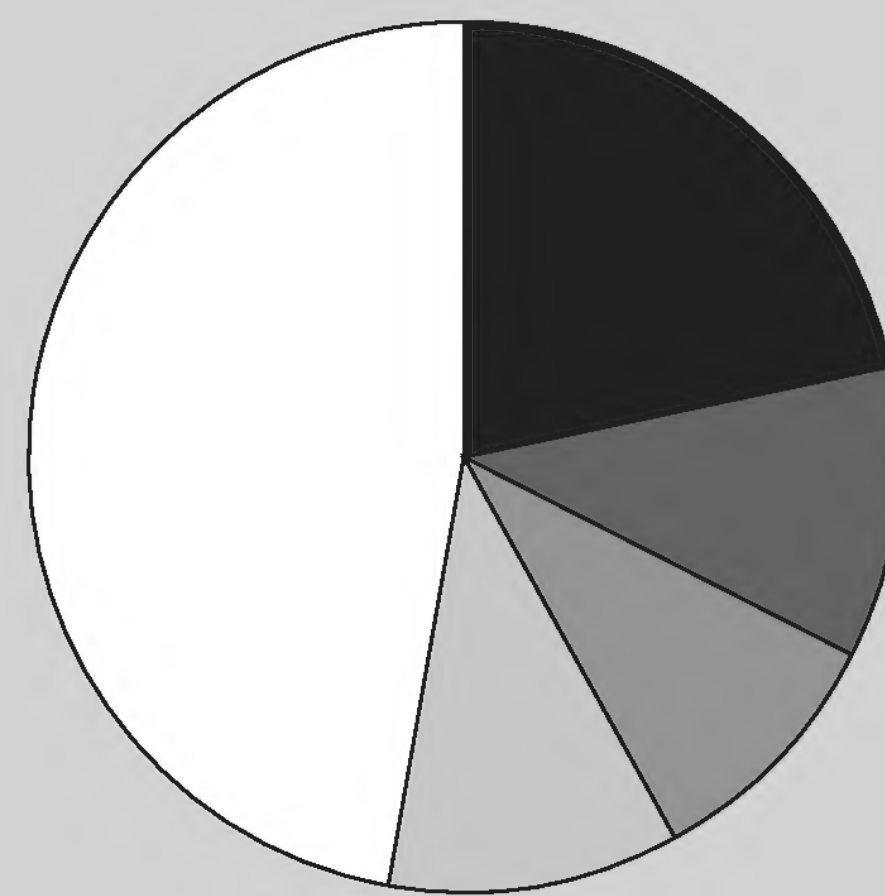
This story shouldn't have been put in the *Fulcrum*, and it shouldn't have been put in the *Gateway*.

ADAM MAUNDER
Engineering III

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca or delivered via paper aeroplane to SUB 3-04. Website comments may also occasionally be printed.

readerpoll

"Where should the next LRT expansion connect to?"



The west end (46%) Millwoods (11%)
St. Albert (10%) Sherwood Park (11%)

The centre of the Earth (22%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 83

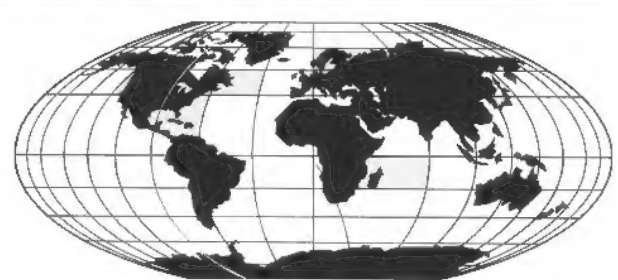
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"How will the proposed differential tuition increases affect you?"

vote online at thegatewayonline.ca

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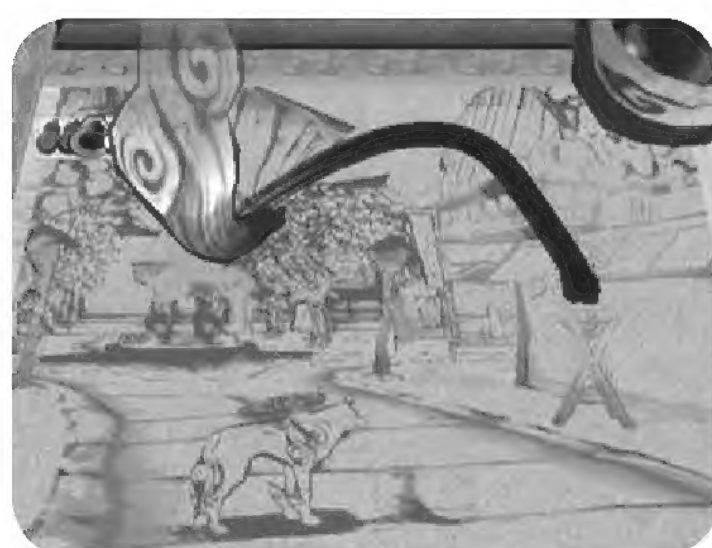
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VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:



THE CELESTIAL BRUSH

File this one under the Absurdly Overpowerful list — Okami's titular canine protagonist's weapon of choice is a magical paintbrush that can descend from the heavens and redraw the universe to your whims. (Or so I have been told — the universe is tough to keep track of.) Anyone whom this strikes as, conceptually, unbelievably powerful, raise your hand. Erm, paw.

A magical inking tool that can reshape reality — boy oh boy, however could we relate that to journalism? If you want to try your hand at drawing in a couple of universal changes, sketch up to SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5 P.M. We'll teach you the secrets of the cosmos canvas, and pretty soon you'll be a dab hand at the whole thing.

GATEWAY Opinion

PAINTING OURSELVES INTO A CORNER OF THE SKY SINCE 1910

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Boards & Committees



STUDENTS' UNION SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE

The new Students' Union Social Responsibility Committee shall review different aspects of the Students' Union's operations from a social responsibility perspective and propose recommendations for their improvement; provide advice as requested to the Students' Union Executive on matters relating to social responsibility; encourage ongoing, proactive discussion within the Students' Union on how to be more socially responsible, and inform the Students' Union upon request on how to best communicate its efforts to the student body.

There are three (3) seats on the committee for students-at-large. To apply, please submit a short letter of intent and a resume/CV to 2-900 SUB by 5:00 PM, Thursday November 26.

➤➤ Please email Zach Fentiman at vp.operations@su.ualberta.ca if you have any questions.

STUDENTS' UNION HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN COMMITTEE

The new Students' Union Health & Dental Plan Committee provides an opportunity for students to provide input and feedback on the various components of the Plan. The committee serves several important functions including creating policy and setting direction for the structure and delivery of the Plan; providing feedback on communications, coverage, service, and all components related to the Plan; and reviewing and approving any benefits or premium changes.

There are three (3) seats on the committee for students-at-large. To apply, please submit a short letter of intent and a resume/CV to 2-900 SUB by 5:00 PM, Thursday November 26.

➤➤ Please email Nick Dehod at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca if you have any questions.

Timing is everything for all of us

But not so much that we don't wish there was some way to visit our favorite historical eras — hopefully the future will send back a time machine soon



OPINION
STAFF

Group
Commentary

Undoubtedly, one problem the campus is suffering from at this time of year is a lack of time. Bleary-eyed all-nighters to finish term papers, obscurely timed meetings for group projects, marathon study sessions turning Cameron library into a temporary youth hostel — you're always either between places, or you're on your way to somewhere vital, and there's simply not enough time to go around.

Which is what got us, the writers of Gateway Opinion, thinking that it would be completely awesome would be to have a time machine. Of course, we realized very quickly that rather than using it responsibly to keep up on our studies, every single one of us would abuse our chronologic powers to visit eras and events that we regret having missed. So here's a compilation of our top temporal destinations. Hope you can spare the time to read them.

Jon Grier

The Moon Landing

Without going too far back, it's a no-brainer that I wish I'd been born 25 years ahead of time to have witnessed the Apollo 11 moon landing. I can only imagine how it felt to have lived through such a large milestone in human evolution. It's such an integral part of my personal history that I'm not even going to dignify any of the ridiculous conspiracy theories with a comment. I just want to know how it made humanity feel to have broken beyond the heavens and go somewhere completely foreign.

I want to know what it felt like to feel as though such a momentous adventure is only just beginning, that the moon is just a stepping stone, the beginning of some manifest destiny or what-have-you, and not just some pissing contest between ideological superpowers. I wish I knew how it felt to have such potential realized by so many people at once.

If I stay in this century, then the world as I see it now isn't expanding — it's internalizing and proliferating itself seemingly without direction. To me, the moon landing was a great expansion of our world. Not "world" as in the planet, but our whole direction as a people in places to go and explore and exist. With as many breakthroughs as we've made in the four decades since, nothing's ever seemed as significant as Apollo 11. As much as I wish I'd been alive back then, I can't trust whether it would make me more distraught at our current direction. An unfair trade-off? Maybe. Still, I shoot for the moon.

Mim Fatmi

The Scientific Revolution

The glorious Scientific Revolution seems like it was a fantastic time to be alive, starchy tights and uncomfortable wigs aside. Real, honest-to-goodness breakthroughs were happening, with one man in particular giving scientific theory a mean shaping-up by

revolutionizing the fields of mechanics, optics, calculus, and more. It was a little guy (though no littler than his rival, Robert Hooke) by the name of Isaac Newton.

Newton was never a sociable person — and rumour has it that he died a virgin — but I'm sure if I was alive I could have romanced him into a lifelong relationship of wave/particle duality arguments. Though that's beside the point — it simply would've been darned cool to observe Newton in his element as scientific theories were unveiled, based on empirical evidence rather than the word of the Pope, for the first time in history. It was for his monumental developments on previous scientists' work that we have and use Newton's laws of motion and momentum even 300-some years after the fact, and to be a part of something constructive in history would have been awesome — much cooler than admitting, "Why yes, I've just performed the same experiment completed by 800 students in the past week alone. Applaud me!"

And the best part? Newton didn't seem like an arrogant guy, despite the possibility that his most famous quotation may have been a jab at his hunch-backed contemporary, Hooke: "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." Whether he knew it then or not, he's certainly a giant to us now.

Kelsey Tanasiuk

V-J Day

Time travel can be dangerous if it's abused too much, so I'd be pretty careful about what event I'd choose to witness were I given a time machine. Sure, it would be cool to sit in Marie Antoinette's bathtub and eat all the cake, but I wouldn't want to accidentally cause any butterfly-effect craziness. Not wanting to come back to a future where everyone speaks French and has three heads, I'd choose to peek in on a big event, something with a lot of people around to let me properly blend into the crowd. That's why I'd be in Times Square for V-J Day, the day that WWII effectively ended.

Aside from it being the location of the famous Alfred Eisenstaedt photograph "V-J Day in Times Square" depicting the sailor kissing the nurse, you have to consider what a spectacle it would have been. It was a spontaneous celebration; no one was told "come to Times Square." People were just so excited at the news of the war ending they just needed a place to go and show it. Citizens and uniforms alike just ready and raring to cause some hullabaloo. I'd imagine that kind of passion and merriment would be very contagious.

Plus people dressed really well back then, so not only was it a huge party it was a huge *classy* party. Top that. That's right — you can't.

Bruce Cinnamon

The Invention of Electricity

It was a dark and stormy night — or at least, it was at least a stormy night. Or rather, it was stormy and after four. This is the story of a man and his kite, and an historical event I am sad to have missed. If it was real. Mythbusters said it was real. They're the foremost authority on this sort of thing, so I'm

assuming it's accurate.

The year is 1752, the day is June 15, and Benjamin Franklin is just a noted polymath with a kite and a key. By flying the kite through a storm cloud and touching a key with his finger, he was able to prove that lightning is electrical by nature, and not "electrical fluid," as was previously thought.

This discovery heralded the beginning of the electric age and the foundation of our modern way of life. Now we have electrical can openers and even entirely electronic destinations to visit or buy property in. We have virtual pets that we play sports with, virtual families that we kill in adventurous ways, virtual jobs that we do when we get home from our real jobs. We have YouTube sensations and Huffington Post articles, Facebook accounts and a standard repository of all human knowledge called Wikipedia, not to mention tons and tons and flippin' *tons* of pornography. And it's all thanks to one man and his kite.

Though the sanitation of the 18th century certainly leaves much to be desired, to be there with that American founding father and his wacky experiments would truly be an electrifying experience.

Mike Kendrick

The Outbreak of WWI

In recent times, the phrase "turn of the century" has come to mean that great rolling over of the millennium, averting the crises of Y2K and Latin pop music hits, and moving forward into a bright new future. Too bad the last 10 years have been, for the most part, pretty boring.

But prior to the year 2000, to speak of the turn of the century provoked imagery of expansion and progress — the Industrial Revolution had left its mark on the world, and from it, a multitude of empires grew and clashed, pushing ever forward into a new era.

Unlike today's mundane unipolar political climate, the world stage of the early 1900s was full of political intrigue and gunboat diplomacy between several major world powers, all hungry for more power and territory. Complex alliances and agreements dominated the politics of King George V, Nicolas II, Wilhelm II, and Franz Joseph I, which culminated, of course, in the 1914 assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand.

A monumental turning point in world history, the elaborate chain reaction of war declarations that ensued sucked in a substantial portion of the civilized world, and would signal the end of many old empires, along with the dawn of many new ones. Horrors of the battles aside, the politics of WWI are much more fascinating than any of the U.N.'s pitiful efforts in this century. As a spectator in 1914, watching the events unfold and just trying to keep up with it all must have been an experience far beyond anything today's headlines can offer.

Lance Mudryk

Star Wars

Hey, "a long time ago in a galaxy far far away" is right there at the beginning. Time travel is thus a reasonable way to get in on that. Now give me my damn lightsabre.

Partisanship problems presented



BRUCE
CINNAMON

Last week, the wonderfully brilliant American House of Representatives passed the controversial *Affordable Health Care for America Act* in a tight 220–215 vote. The culmination of a five-month media circus, the bill’s passing marked a key victory for the Democratic majority and the Obama administration. Now, an amendment prohibiting federal abortion funding is stirring up opposition among the more liberal Democrats in the Senate, who are expected to vote on the bill this spring.

Over the past few months, we’ve seen many sensational presentations from each side of the American political circus. We’ve seen Barack Obama wasting an hour that would’ve been better spent working on his Chicago Olympics pitch, trying to convince Republicans and conservative Democrats of the righteousness of his position. We’ve seen “tea parties,” with citizens carrying SMGs and posters of Obama as the Joker. Incited by the neo-con radio hosts on one side and the massively liberal mainstream networks on the other, neither group is willing to give way. And that’s perfectly fine.

The current situation of our American friends is a vast improvement on the sickening state of political affairs that their country has undergone since January. Their political

scene has been dominated by those preaching moderation, spouting such clichés as “reaching across the aisle” and “crossing party lines”. We’ve seen the tentative liberals, afraid of the loud rural minorities and the more fiscal-minded factions in their own bloated party; we’ve seen the cautious conservatives, none wanting to be called racist or associated with their last administration’s buffoonery. Now, finally we’re seeing the return of confident, healthy, political entrenchment in America.

Why should legislators pretend to sympathize with, or even understand, what their opponents are saying? Centrist no longer has a place, or even a purpose in democracy. Sure, we can accuse partisan factions of being irrational extremists, but the alternative — moderates — are simply weak. They dilute their lukewarm policies and betray their ideologies, sacrificing the quality of their legislation for utilities. How can we trust our elected officials if they’re constantly fence-sitting and flip-flopping? Where are their values? What are their motives? Any politician willing to deliberate and change his stance is clearly not interested in the common good, only in preserving his own power by supporting populist policies.

And if legislators begin crossing party lines and supporting legislation based on its merits instead of their respective political philosophies, how will citizens know who to vote for? Are we really expected to research the delegates in question, rather than basing our choices on whether their campaign literature is printed on red or blue paper? Surely, if each delegate was an independent,

voter turnout would drop even lower than its current dismal percentage. Parties and partisanship are both convenient and effective.

It has been said by several dissenters to this school of thought that warring extremist factions don’t represent the majority of citizens, who are generally more moderate. This is true. The government doesn’t represent the will of the majority at all — if that were the case, the government wouldn’t exist, or perhaps, rather, it wouldn’t consist of a small group of highly stressed white men who don’t have time to pay attention to what’s going on in the world around them. The fact is, by not voting, the majority is giving their tacit consent to this partisan system — they get exactly what they vote for, and exactly what they deserve.

Let’s be frank for a moment here — partisanship is a flawed system, especially when it creates a dichotomy. Being a Canadian sure makes me glad that I don’t live in a country like the United States, with right-wing nut jobs who think the world is only 6,000 years old and left-wing big government that wants to spend my tax dollars on inefficient social programs. Because unlike the U.S.A.’s two-party republicanism, Canada’s parliamentary system is founded on consensus, coalition, and compromise. There’s no such thing as a unilateral motion — every piece of legislation is necessarily bipartisan, and every decision founded on the principles of agreement and harmony. Nowhere else can you get democracy in its truest, most non-partisan sense: it thrives especially in the great nation of Canada, and specifically in the wonderfully brilliant province of Alberta.

Binary computer ads end up full of zeroes



IAN
PHILLIPCHUK

Hello, I’m a Mac, and a PC, and I hate them both with a fiery passion that consumes my soul. The bullspit, spin and misleading information that seems to spew forth from the Redmond- and Cupertino-based offices of Microsoft and Apple fills me with a desire to tear apart whatever computer I’m using with my bare hands and chew up the silicon chips to exorcize the demons inside. And nothing is more deserving of my rage than the ads that are plastered all over the Internet and TV.

As I write this, and probably as you surf the Internet in a vain attempt to avoid reading this, John Hodgman and Justin Long are staring out from the sides and top of *The Onion’s* website, and I watch in amazed wonder as the fat PC analog breaks the laws of physics by moving from one ad to the other, metaphorically stopping Windows users from switching to Mac. “One down, thousands to go,” he declares. Ha ha. It’s funny because it’s relatable.

At best, the sickening marketing speech spewed from the ads to the tune of that oh-so-annoying piece of piano music is propaganda, and outright slander at worst. Apple has apparently learned well the lesson from

“If you listen only to the Mac ads, PCs are unusable monoliths of confusion that will corrupt your data; from the Microsoft perspective, Apples are overpriced pieces of silicon that deliver half of what they promise and a third of what Windows has to offer. As usual, the truth is somewhere in between.”

politics that the best way to emphasize your own merits is to point out that the other guy is a crazed psychopath who’s trying to steal your thumbs. Rather than engage in an actual debate based on merits, they prefer 90 per cent of the time to intentionally slag Windows at every opportunity. Their latest ad, “Broken Promises,” wraps up a blatant attack on Windows 7 in the guise of how easy it will be to switch to a Mac.

The problems found in the advertisements are a systemic issue that is pervasive in society, and it has its roots in the fundamental nature of choice. At the end of the day, you always have to decide on one of two choices — whether you buy a Mac or a PC, vote Democratic or Republican, buy two per cent milk or skim. Unfortunately, marketing companies have realized that duality means they don’t have to convince people that the reduced fat content of skim can be healthy, as long as they can convince people that two per cent milk is made from finely ground chihuahuas.

There are lots of reasons why someone should buy a Mac, and Apple is doing a disservice to themselves and to their audience by not presenting those advantages in an honest format. The embedded Unix kernel makes

it a friendlier development environment than Windows in many cases, and the added safety and security is useful in a world where identity theft is a real problem to those that don’t take precautions against it.

By no means am I playing favourites here. Microsoft is no better, steadfastly refusing to admit the flaws inherent in their own system. Executives at the house that Gates built have adopted the intelligent strategy of either holding their hands over their ears and trying not to hear the detractors, or ripping off competing operating systems and them claiming their innovations as their own.

More than anything, this hurts the consumer. If you listen only to the Mac ads, PCs are unusable monoliths of confusion that will corrupt your data and make you look unhip to boot; from the Microsoft perspective, Apples are overpriced pieces of silicon that deliver half of what they promise and a third of what Windows has to offer. As usual, the truth is somewhere in between, and the fact that this isn’t presented to the end consumer in an elegant way isn’t a crime yet — but it will be when I unleash the FREE_MONEY_VIAGRA virus and rule all of mankind with an iron fist.

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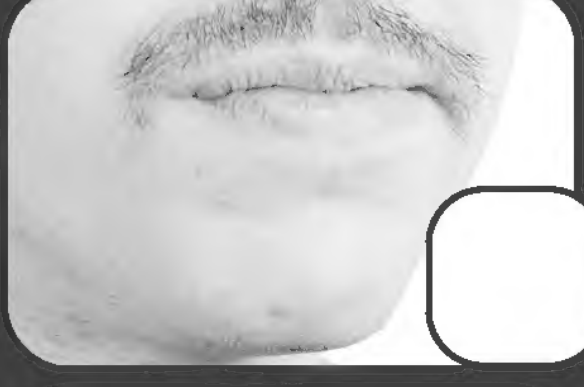
The Gateway's moustache contest

Week 3: Stache Hard with a Vengeance

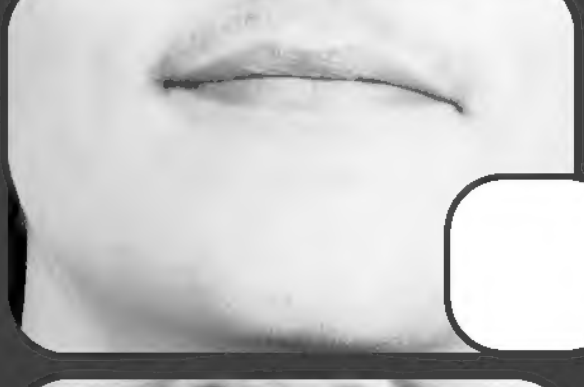
Can you match the editor to their stache?




1. Lucas Wagner




2. Pete Yee




3. Jon Taves



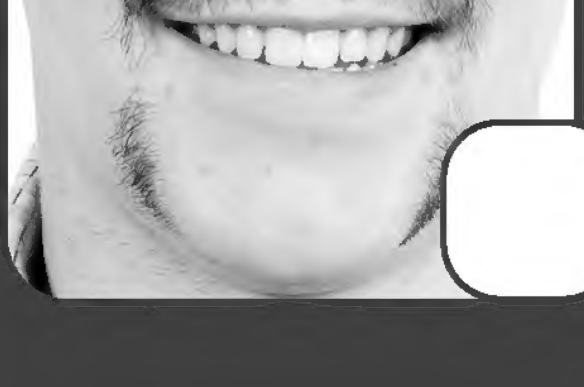
4. Mike Kendrick




5. David Johnston



6. Nick Frost



7. Sean Steels



See their faces revealed at
[thegatewayonline.ca / moustache](http://thegatewayonline.ca/moustache)

While you're there, you might as well vote for the editor you think will reign supreme.



THE FEST EXPERIENCE

WRITTEN BY BEN SIR
ILLUSTRATED BY
KELSEY TANASLUK

THREE CONNECTING FLIGHTS, AN UNPLANNED CAR RENTAL, TWO HIGHWAY DETOURS THAT RENDERED ME HOPELESSLY LOST, AND ONE CLEVERLY DISGUISED CONVERSE-DESTROYING MUDHOLE LEFT ME WITH ONE CONCLUSION:

FUCK JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

I fled inland in my rented Sebring, following the westbound signs that read "Gainesville." I had a weekend-long date with the many reptiles of the college town: The University of Florida's namesake Gators; the actual alligators that inhabit the region's swamps; and the crocodilian senior citizens that inhabit every nook, cranny, and waffle house of the Sunshine State.

My story isn't unique, as a few thousand punk fans and over 300 bands were converging on the area for The Fest 8, an annual three-day punk festival held over Halloween weekend in Gainesville. If the increasingly accessible and corporate Warped Tour is "punk rock summer camp," then The Fest is a Pabst-fuelled bush party thrown by its drunk and sweaty counsellors.

The Fest is the brainchild of Tony Weinbender, a former employee of a major label, who grew disenfranchised with the lack of authentic passion within the corporate music business. Weinbender cut his teeth in the recording industry working for Gainesville-based punk label No Idea records. Upon quitting his job, he set to work, armed with only a computer to create what eight years later has turned into a global punk-rock pilgrimage.

To call it a pilgrimage is most accurate, of course, which is testified by the California and New Jersey license plates that populated my hotel parking lot, along with the Swedish and Japanese pinpoints on the map where attendees are

encouraged to show their places of origin. It's either a testament to one's financial irresponsibility, musical passion, or both, which lead people to Gainesville's tiny regional airport.

It's not accidental that the town is ground zero for this countercultural convergence. The aforementioned No Idea Records occupies a stately house in the city's core, just as many of the principles and values spread by the label and its bands have permeated into, at least, the city's dietary consciousness. Every restaurant I visited offered patrons extensive vegetarian and vegan options, a growing though still infrequent reality in Edmonton. One particularly delicious visit was to the Caribbean-themed Reggae Shack, which offered Red Stripe beer, jerk tofu, and a Buju Banton record above our table. For those of the carnivorous persuasion, alligator and "jackalope" burritos offered regionally unique options.

With great food and greater booze (and by "greater," I mean cheaper, exemplified by the American institution of free-pouring liquor, which is both a momentary blessing and waking curse) providing the fuel for the weekend, the music acted as the perfect accelerant.

Gainesville has given birth to a disproportionate amount of successful bands considering its population of just over 100,000. Punk heavyweights Hot Water Music, Less than Jake, and Against Me all hail from the town, as does that peaceful corpse Tom Petty.

It's impossible to say any one band stole the weekend because no one would agree. One fellow Edmontonian was most excited for the lineup of Coalesce, Russian Circles, and Coliseum, three bands my tastes don't prefer. Another group, Lemuria, who I had never heard of, had the most fans adorning their t-shirts.

I encountered many forms of musical education and enjoyment. Bands I've loved for years like Strike Anywhere had me stage-diving and singing along like I was 16 years old again, while Sweden's Smalltown, previously unknown to me, had me hooked on every one of their melodic rhythms. The nightly after-parties, held at a warehouse outside the city limits, offered fans the opportunity to have a couple drinks with the dozen-or-so-bands, which would play abridged sets beginning at 2 a.m.

No two souls may completely agree on which show, venue, or band was the best, but my experience was best represented on day two.

Behind all chaos is some order, which at The Fest is their strict time schedule of when bands start and finish. The prior year, the vastly popular A Wilhelm Scream were cut off mid-song for running too long. However, no amount of scheduling diligence could combat a power outage at the main venue (aptly titled "The Venue"). A kink was thrown in both the organizers' time-crafting, and also our meticulously plotted itinerary of what bands to catch and where.

The plan to watch San Francisco's Dead to Me before heading to the wonderfully dark Market Street Pub for fellow Canadians, The Flatliners, was snuffed out upon hearing over a 2 p.m. whiskey that the two bands would be playing at nearly identical times. After half an hour in the sing-along fray that unfolded before Dead to Me, my three fellow Edmontonians

and I burst through The Venue's emergency exit in hopes that our frantic feet would carry us fast enough to catch the final notes of The Flatliners. As we re-entered Market Street's doors at a mildly intoxicated cheetah's pace, we were greeted with the opening chords of The Flatliners' "July! August! Reno!" Elation took over in the charge to the front of the stage to scream "these eyes are finally opening" right back at singer Chris Cresswell.

The Fest began with registration where concert-goers lined up around the Holiday Inn to receive their schedules and bracelets, which entitled them to all the benefits of the weekend, much like an all-inclusive resort. It ended with band-vans, Greyhounds, and sexy, silver, rented Dodge Sebrings parting Gainesville not with "goodbye," but "see you next year."

While many Fest virgins such as myself were bloodshot-eyed with hungover satisfaction, some veterans were grumbling. "It's too big," "It too oversold," "There wasn't enough room for my beard."

Fest architect Tony Weinbender also acknowledged in the introductory pamphlet that it might in fact be the final Fest. With increased popularity and size comes increased organization and responsibility; two notions not explicitly synonymous with the alcohol and musical excesses of the weekend.

Regardless of its future, I can shut my mind and mouth knowing that The Fest was important enough for people from all corners of the globe to come see three days of what others might perceive as poorly played guitar chords. Just as for some, it may be hip-hop, house, or those tattooed teeny-bopping heartthrobs Stereos, for us of the punk rock persuasion, Gainesville is a testament to where music, art, and expression can carry us.

IF THE INCREASINGLY ACCESSIBLE AND CORPORATE WARPED TOUR IS "PUNK ROCK SUMMER CAMP," THEN THE FEST IS A PABST-FUELLED BUSH PARTY THROWN BY ITS DRUNK AND SWEATY COUNSELLORS.



social intercourse

Billy Bragg

With Ron Hawkins
Winspear Centre (9720-102 Ave.)
Tuesday, November 24 at 8 p.m.
\$37 at the Winspear box office

To most, the term “punk” brings to mind loud songs played at double time. Billy Bragg has turned that perception on its head with over 13 albums of overtly political folk music, making the modern wave of guyliner-wearing metrosexual mall punks look more like Cher than the Sex Pistols. His intelligent brand of folk discusses the power of unions, workers’ rights, and the idiocy of racism through eloquent melodies that have garnered him mass praise worldwide over an almost 30-year career. When the estate of Woodie Guthrie went in search of musicians who could effectively play unrecorded songs of his that had been unearthed, Billy Bragg and Wilco joined forces to release one the best albums of the decade. Never reducing himself to following the Mohican, bullet-belt-clad dress code of the scene, Billy Bragg has consistently remained true to his own political ideals.

Opera Workshop

November 20 and 21 at 8 p.m.
Convocation Hall (U of A Arts Building)
Admission \$10-15

Looking for a great date idea to impress that cute girl in that boring afternoon fine arts class? Take her to a cheap evening of opera scenes from the 20th century right on campus. The night features excerpts from various operas including *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Tenderland*, and *Riders to the Sea*. Just remember that if you set the standards too high on the first date, you’ll have to work extra hard to live up to them. After the evening of high culture, you should probably take her out to the closest fast food joint to balance things out. Leave *Il Portico* until the second date.

This is a Standoff

With *The Red Threat*, *The Evidence*, and *The Challenger Exploding*
The Pawn Shop (10551-82 Ave.)
Saturday, November 21 at 8 p.m.
\$10 in advance from Blackbyrd Myoozik or Megatunes on Whyte

The average punk band spends years slowly building a following in their hometown before venturing out on a nationwide tour. This is a Standoff are not your average punk band. Members of the melodic hardcore band have done considerable time in popular Canadian skate punk bands like The Johnsons and Belvedere. Upon their formation in 2007, they embarked upon their first tour, heading off to Europe to play their first show together as a band in Belgium. Since that day, they’ve played in more than 20 countries, including a recent trip to Japan and shared the stage with punk giants Bad Religion, NOFX, Mad Caddies, and Millencolin.

Exposure: Edmonton’s Queer Arts and Culture Festival

Friday, November 13-Saturday, November 21
(some events have extended runs)
Check out www.exposurefestival.ca for event dates, times, costs, etc.

Exposure is an arts festival that examines modern queer society through mediums as diverse as performance art, theatre, and roller derby. Spread out over nine days and 17 venues, the festival promises to have something of interest for everyone. While it wraps up this weekend, there are still events such as book readings and art shows that run past this weekend. Swallow your pride (pun intended) and celebrate Edmonton’s diversity.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Waiting for Hilary Duff’s call

The Cat Empire claws way back to Canada

Felix Riebl explains why he’s not too worried about the recession and why it might be a good thing



musicpreview

The Cat Empire

With Jon and Roy
Friday, November 20 at 8 p.m.
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)
\$25 at ticketmaster.ca

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

As the trees finish shedding their leaves and the threat of snow grows ever closer up here in Canada, those upside-down Aussies are slowly transitioning into a hot, sunny summer. It’s tough to imagine that anyone would willingly hop on a plane and trade seasons, but that’s exactly what vocalist and percussionist Felix Riebl and his five bandmates from The Cat Empire are doing. Over his cell phone from Melbourne during a brief respite from the band’s aggressive touring schedule, his voice echoes softly from the other side of the world as he shares some of their plans for the next year.

“I’m quite excited about coming back to Canada because we haven’t been there in a long time. We really have a good time in Canada,” Riebl says. “As a band we’ve been travelling non-stop since we first started and we’ve been to so many different countries, but Canadian audiences have always been really good to us.”

And when Riebl says non-stop, he’s not being hyperbolic. Over the past six years, The Cat Empire have played over 600 shows (and counting) and have been steadily releasing music during that same period of time. While the band took a few months away from touring and each other earlier this year, according to Riebl, even his down time is busy. The group announced earlier this year that they’re

planning on releasing a new album some time in mid-2010, so much of his spare time has been funneled back into his music.

“We’re just writing [the new record] at the moment and bringing in stacks of material, and just seeing where it takes us,” he says.

Riebl is hesitant to pin down too many specifics at this stage in the process, but he does share some of his vision for the currently untitled record.

“People kind of carry on about Australian accents, but I think Australian accents are pretty funny to be honest. I think if I had a choice, I’d choose a different accent.”

FELIX RIEBL
VOCALIST/PERCUSSIONIST, THE CAT EMPIRE

“I hope to make an album that is optimistic, big, and festive, and draws on a festival experience — something with a nice big sound with something fresh about it. But to be honest, it’s kind of hard to say. Recording is kind of surprising [...] especially in a group like this that is so diverse. It’s a bit of a circus, really.”

Sonically, The Cat Empire draw from jazz, funk, Latin music, rock, and ska, to name a few. And with multiple band members at the creative helm and a strong leaning towards improvisation, it’s easy to see how malleable their sound can be. With a North American tour now unfolding, Riebl says that intense busyness breeds intense creativity, and he’s hoping for inspiration to strike abroad.

“I think writing music on the road, for me, is really an indication of whether [the tour is] going well or badly. I have to keep on being

creative, or else I find it very difficult because touring can really suck the life out of you. You give a lot on stage every night and then after a while, you don’t have much energy at all,” Riebl shares.

“For me, it’s a matter of being creative and being open to new experiences on the road, which are often separate from the band.”

For most people, the thought of living out of a suitcase for months on end without many of the comforts of home seems pretty dismal, but despite the physical and emotional toll that long stretches of touring can have on a group, Riebl doesn’t mind leaving his stuff behind. A recurring theme in The Cat Empire’s music is a strong rejection of materialism, so perhaps it’s unsurprising that he’s unphased by the prospect of touring during a recession.

“I feel I have a great job because you can enjoy something about it without having to be buying anything. For a moment, at least while you’re playing that song or doing that show, or spending time with those musicians, you’re doing something which is really human and simple,” he explains.

“I really, really love that and I’ve been clinging to music more than anything for the last couple of years because it seems like it offers that moment of peace from everything. I think sometimes recessions can wake people up and make them realize how deranged the world’s become and how the balance is gone [...] I’m hoping it might change the way that we work. That’s my optimistic view.”

So while Riebl may not be particularly conscious of the things he’s not bringing Canada, there are certainly other things he’s more aware of when he’s not at home.

“I think you notice your accent much more when you’re [overseas],” Riebl laughs. “People kind of carry on about Australian accents, but I think Australian accents are pretty funny to be honest. I think if I had a choice, I’d choose a different accent, but a lot of people seem to like it.”

TV is getting too good lately



EVAN
MUDRYK

If you're like me, you're probably hopelessly addicted to at least one or two TV shows. And if you are me, you're probably hopelessly addicted to 17 TV shows and are on the verge of failing every course this semester and probably a few in the winter term as well.

As much as I'd like to blame others for my misfortune, I guess I can only really blame myself. I am the one that watches them, after all. But how am I supposed to resist the temptation of all these great programs when you people won't stop talking about them? In all seriousness, I'm afraid of what might happen to my life if I start watching *Glee*, that singing and dancing bombshell. It combines three of my favourite things: *High School Musical*, Jane Lynch, and copious amounts of jazz hands.

And this is to say nothing of the oft-talked about *Lost*. It's bad enough that I have to watch a new episode every week for some shows, but now I have to meticulously study an archive's worth of them? That's like TV show homework! I can barely manage to watch six episodes of *Pride and Prejudice* to avoid having to read a book, and now you want me to examine 103 episodes for my own enjoyment? Excuse me if I don't really care to know what that cloud monster is supposed to be, or if a sequence of numbers which add up to 108 has any satisfying payoff for attentive viewers. I'll be over here watching *Two and a Half Men*.

And these are just shows that I don't watch. I practically tell time by how long it is until the next episode of *The Office*. Spoiler alert: Jim and Pam are so married now, guys! They're,

like, the cutest couple ever, and that Dwight character never ceases to infect me with the H1N1 version of laughter. Is it possible to giggle oneself into a coma? I hope not, because that would be sad. Although, it would make for a good TV drama. I'd tune in.

Most people also like reality shows, but I'm happy to say I don't. I mean, I already live in reality, and most the time it's just me sitting in my beanbag chair, crawling into my Snuggie, cracking open a warm Mountain Dew, and watching 14 episodes of *Home Improvement* on a whim. Who wants to watch real people do things when in *Beasties*, I can watch dinosaurs transform into robots and shoot lasers at each other? Let's see Heidi Montag do that. Seriously, let's force her to do that. That would be awesome.

How am I supposed to resist the temptation of all these great programs when you people won't stop talking about them?

So as it stands, television producers are conspiring to ruin my life, and there's nothing I can do to stop them. How can I say no to sassy one-liners and brooding sexual tensions between teens who are just trying to learn how to make it on their own? With that one sentence, I just described four completely different shows that I watch on a regular basis. Obviously I can't continue to do this — I'll be dead before the mid-season break. But I can't just destroy my TV: the shock of not knowing what happens on the next episode of *Heroes* might kill me — not that it matters. It might just be all a dream, or a cover up by the CIA, or maybe my secret twin brother died in my place. Too bad I'll have to wait till next Thursday to find out.

Gay Tony adds personality to GTA

gamereview

Grand Theft Auto: The Ballad of Gay Tony

Published by Rockstar Games
Developed by Rockstar North

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Perhaps the best news about the most recent piece of downloadable content for *Grand Theft Auto IV*, the aptly named *The Ballad of Gay Tony*, is that a certain Serbian slob won't be calling you every five minutes to go see some "big fat American tit-tees." *Gay Tony* provides some much-needed flair, and from the bright rainbow-coloured title screen to the badly overdressed and over-dramatic characters, to the purple sparkling loading text, this most recent foray into Liberty City has something sorely lacking from previous outings: character.

Bidding good riddance to Niko, Roman, and most of the other characters from the previous game and its first downloadable chapter, *The Lost and the Damned*, *The Ballad of Gay Tony* puts you in the shoes of Luis Lopez, last seen getting held up in the bank robbery in the initial game. You interact and do jobs for his titular boss and his cadre of friends and enemies.

By the end of it, you'll meet some friends, make some enemies, hit some golf balls (into people), skydive, and drive an armoured behemoth through downtown Liberty City. And, if you're the average *GTA IV* player, you'll find time to have some sex with hookers, and go on more than a few orgies of violence. It's more of the same great fun that the series typically provides, but with a couple of twists.

It's not so much what's in *The Ballad of Gay*

Tony that makes it successful, as much as what isn't. In the original game, there was a cavalcade of useless time-wasters, and none more evident than your seriously needy and clingy "friends." Providing help in a gunfight here, or some money or useful utilities there, the original had you hopping from bar to strip club to drug run to satisfy your friends' desires. For every mission there was a zillion requests to go play darts or masturbate or whatever. It was enough to drive a Serb crazy. God help you if you were trying to date a fine-looking lady at the same time.

A majority of those distractions have been removed, and it's to the game's benefit. Girlfriends are replaced with "booty calls," your plethora of acquaintances are replaced with only a few much less pushy counterparts, and the missions themselves feel tighter and more focused. The story sees business partners Gay Tony and Lopez try to pay off their debts to the mob, as well as make a little profit on the side managing Tony's two clubs.

The personality is very evident from the get-go, with characters like Tony's coke-mad boyfriend Evan, and Mori — older brother of fan-favorite Brucie — taking centre stage. It comes across as very much larger-than-life, and it really works. *Vice City* used a similar method to almost universal acclaim and it's obvious that it really works here.

At the end of the day, *GTA IV* wasn't broken; it was just very misdirected. The serious, almost depressing story of Niko Bellic clashed with the roots of the series as an open sandbox game, and it almost felt too dire and serious for its own good. *The Ballad of Gay Tony* takes away all of the depressing trappings of the first game and replaces them with glitz, glamour, and nightlife. If you enjoyed your previous trips to Liberty City, go ahead and hang out with Gay Tony and Luis, but there isn't anything new or groundbreaking here besides the atmosphere.

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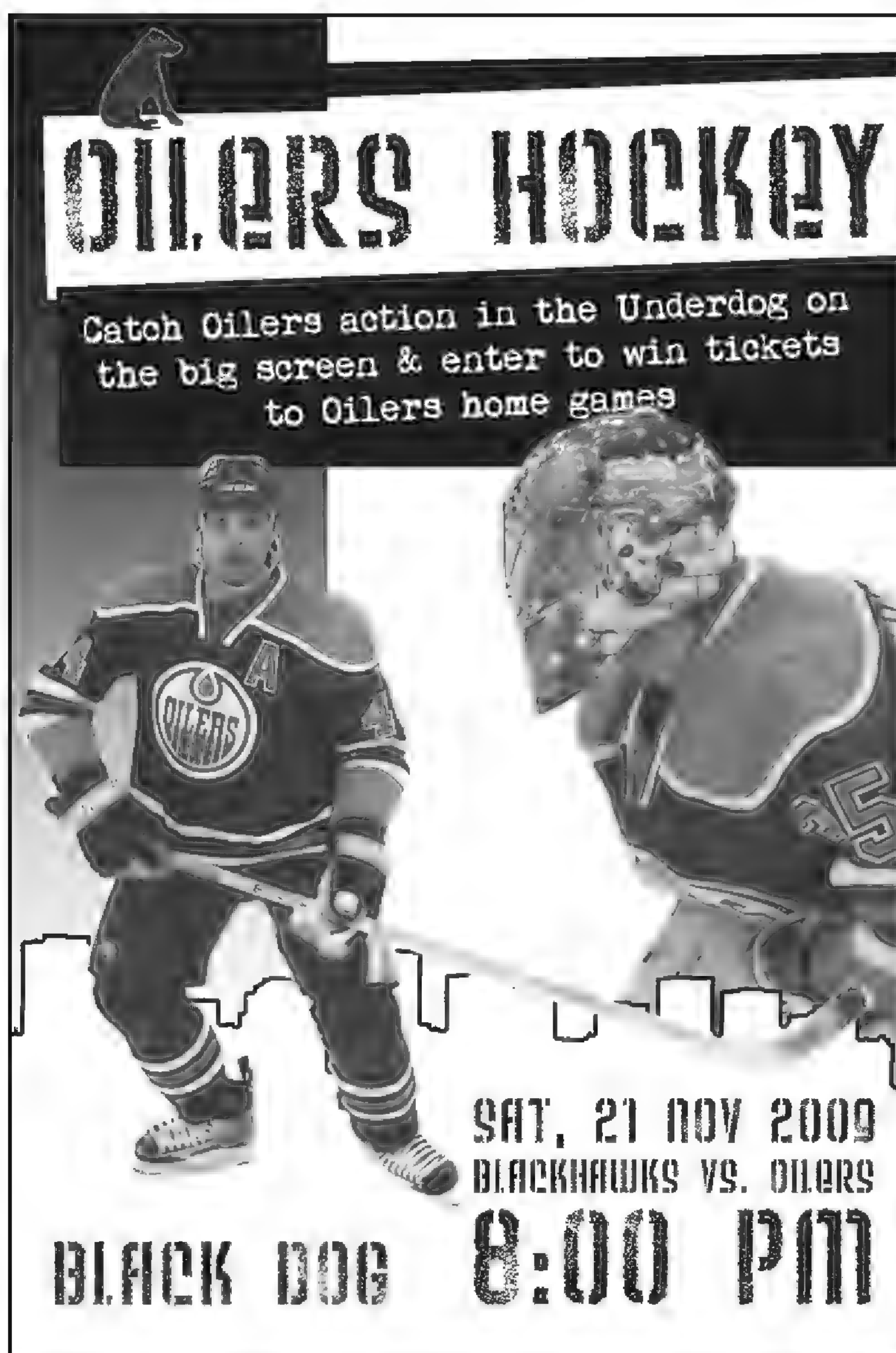
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OILERS HOCKEY

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SAT, 21 NOV 2009
BLACKHAWKS VS. OILERS
8:00 PM

BLACK DOG



Pitbull
Rebution
 Sony Music

albumbattle

VS.

Sean Kingston
Tomorrow
 Sony Music



JANNA YING DENG
 Arts & Entertainment Staff

The plan: pick two albums and pit them against each other in a gruesome deathmatch until a victor emerges. There can be only one!

Cover Art

Pitbull: Pitbull is yet another James Bond hopeful, complete with an airbrushed naked chick in camouflage at his side. Listeners don't need help figuring out this CD is full of trashy dance hits.

Kingston: An animated Kingston doll complete with bling and aviators — juvie record sold separately. It's almost adorable.

Advantage: Kingston, for avoiding the "hot naked girl" cliché.

Best Track

Pitbull: The lyrics actually tell a story in "Across the World." For a moment, you believe Pitbull has purpose as an artist.

Kingston: His track "Welcome to Tomorrow" sounds uplifting, hopeful, and enduring, until it ends after 50 seconds and you realize it's just an intro to title track "Tomorrow," which features

Kingston whining over a girl.

Advantage: Pitbull for daring to giving us a whole song that didn't involve female anatomy.

Worst Song

Pitbull: So many choices, but "Girls" has a total word count of 10, and describes what I assume to be one of Pitbull's anatomically impossible adolescent fantasies. Not interesting unless you share his imagination. Gross.

Kingston: Whatever "Ice Cream Girl" means, it will leave you feeling cold and sick if you have to listen to it repeatedly.

Advantage: I really don't think it's possible to win this one. But Kingston gets the point; perhaps not everyone is lactose intolerant the first time they hear his song.

Best Dance Song

Pitbull: Despite its lyrics, "Krazy" is catchy and rhythmic. Most people will be too drunk to understand the words anyway.

Kingston: The infamous "Fire Burning" still reigns. The lyrics are easy enough to remember, and shouting "somebody call 911!" just gets better as the evening

lengthens (as long as the tequila shots keep coming).

Advantage: Pitbull, just because the Kingston single should be burned out by now.

Album Title

Pitbull: Is *Rebution* a political statement? An indication of change from the norm? It hints at intrigue without melodrama.

Kingston: *Tomorrow* — an optimistic statement about the future or are we overstretching its meaning? Perhaps it just refers to the title track.

Advantage: Pitbull, just for cute wordsmithing.

Verdict

Neither album can be considered groundbreaking. They both fulfill the niche of inebriated dance music, and expectations aren't high for this genre. Pitbull wins by a hair: His songs are more diverse, if not better. Kingston is more brave, leaving his rap artist role, but not brave enough to think of lyrics to match his hip-hop reggae sound. Despite Pitbull's win, few would complain if both these dawgs were euthanized.

FLOP CULTURE

For anyone that knows me, they know one thing: I quite fancy Nicolas Cage. His brazenly over-the-top overacting is like the sun on a rainy day for me; his propensity for yelling manically inane lines fills my heart with glee; and his sole facial expression — you know, the one of wild-eyed insanity and abject fear — makes me feel truly alive due to the hearty belly laughs.

So it was with true sorrow and pity that I read this week that Cage's own *National Treasure* had gone missing, and the likelihood that a message on the back of the Declaration of Independence would magically help him locate it was slim to nil. In debt to the IRS to the tune of \$6 million, Cage was forced to auction off his two New

Orleans homes last Thursday, including one in the historic French Quarter.

Man, this Oscar-award-winning A-lister nephew of Francis Ford Coppola who routinely makes lists of Hollywood's most powerful stars just can't catch a break. Alas, all those days running around like Chicken Little telling people that the world is ending or ranting that "the caves won't save us!" doesn't leave much time to file the necessary papers. Despite how many prophetic visions he's had of the apocalypse, he somewhat ironically couldn't predict his own financial devastation.

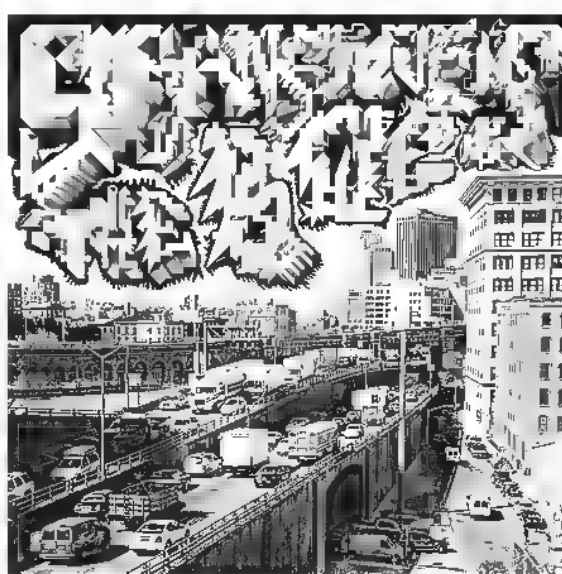
How'd he get burned, you ask? According to *Access Hollywood*, Cage is blaming his former alleged "incompetent" business manager, Samuel J. Levin, for "sending Cage down a path toward financial ruin" and paying himself "millions of dollars," while diverting Cage's precious Benjamins into "risky" and "highly

speculative" investments. It wasn't immediately clear exactly which recent investments sent the star of *G-Force*, *Knowing*, *Ghost Rider*, *Bangkok Dangerous*, and *Next* down the road towards fiscal insolvency but one thing is certain: Cage was at absolutely no fault here and was completely led astray by this bloodthirsty managerial vampire. Or alleged vampire.

Sadly, for all cinematic connoisseurs and fans of gentlemanly class, refined taste, and Nicolas-Cage-in-a-bear-suit-punching-women grace, this does not bode well for any future *Wicker Man 2* prospects. Or *2 Bangkok 2 Dangerous*, for that matter.

JOHN KMECH

Flop Culture is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits shake their literary fists at ridiculous events or celebrities deserving of an inky bitch-slap.



albumreview

Sufjan Stevens
The BQE
 Asthmatic Kitty

LANCE MUDRYK
 Arts & Entertainment Staff

In his latest work, Sufjan Stevens is in a place far away from his masterpiece, *Illinois*. Okay, I guess he's only about 1,500 kilometres east in New York City, but somewhere on the drive there, he's lost his voice, as *The BQE* is primarily an orchestra suite.

Stevens was inspired by the ugly mess that is the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, one of North America's most poorly planned and built urban roadways. In his attempt to find beauty in a place of ugliness, he creates this non-narrative arrangement of pieces that purposefully switches with little grace between orchestral and experimental rock. Early on, the

performance borders on dull, but by "Movement III: Linear Tableau with Intersecting Surprise" you can begin to see his style come together.

Woodwinds dance dreamily before you're kidnapped by "Movement IV: Traffic Shock," where Stevens' Electronica influences make their first appearance. The album ends with a booming sendoff, but leaves you longing to hear Stevens' melancholy voice.

Accompanying the album is a DVD filmed by Stevens and cinematographer Reuben Kleiner. Like the album, there's no story — just reoccurring motifs and images. At first it seems to be no more than a glorified opening credits montage: simple, hand-filmed

shots of buildings and cars seem to drag on forever as you wait for something to happen.

Although thematically significant, the sections with cute girls hula-hooping seem out of place in this slice-of-life film. The DVD is completely in split-screen, so if you're bored by one the images, there's always two others to choose to look at instead. Where the soundtrack becomes interesting, the film does as well. In "Movement IV: Traffic Shock", the film takes on the point-of-view of the car as it blazes down the road in fast-motion. The film also uses slow-motion, but like driving, it's much less fun to be stuck in gridlock traffic than it is flying down roads, well above the speed limit.

The BQE is an impressive demonstration of Stevens' diversity, but the work feels more like an epic art project than something you'd recommend to your friends. Though it's a mostly enjoyable experiment, I hope Stevens takes the next exit off this expressway and gets back to exploring America's 50 states.

Ohbijou says bye bye Bellwoods



musicpreview

Ohbijou

With the Dojo Workhorse
Thursday, November 19 at 9 p.m.
Pawn Shop (10549-82 Ave.)
\$10 at ticketmaster.ca

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The romantic notion of the “starving artist” is one often applied to musicians, particularly during the inevitable start-up phase every band must endure on their way to fame. But for Casey Mecija, one of six current members of orchestral indie-pop outfit Ohbijou, an important part of being an artist has been using her music to fight others’ hunger. Working collectively with a few dozen other bands from Toronto, Mecija and bandmate James Bunton decided in the summer of 2007 to put together a compilation album called *Friends in Bellwoods*, named after Mecija’s home on Bellwoods Avenue.

“I’m sort of in transit right now. I’m on tour so much that it doesn’t make sense for me to rent a place.”

CASEY MECIJA
ON BEING TEMPORARILY HOMELESS

“The basement [of Bellwoods] was a really amazing place to have shows and the place that Ohbijou had its practices. It became this place where lots of musicians played and hung out. James and I thought this was a really important thing to capsule that summer, and we tried to put out a compilation of artists that are our friends, or are people that have inspired us in some way,” explains Mecija.

All of the proceeds from *Friends in Bellwoods* were donated to Toronto’s Daily Bread Foundation, and because of the project’s success, Mecija and

friends decided that 2009 was a great time for a follow-up: *Friends in Bellwoods 2*. To date, the project has raised nearly 18,000 dollars in the fight against inner-city hunger.

“We were thinking about something that affects our city [when we chose a charity], that we see everyday just walking down our city streets. [There’s] homelessness and with that comes hunger and poverty. They are always in need of donations and support. We thought that that would be a good organization to donate the profits to” she says.

Ironically, Mecija herself became homeless during the process of putting this project together. At the end of this past summer, Mecija discovered that Bellwoods was infested with mold, and after broaching the issue with her landlord, she was evicted.

“It was sort of bittersweet after living there for like four or five years,” Mecija reminisces. “It was really sad, but it was also exciting because a couple days before we moved out we had all of the *Bellwoods* compilation CD releases in the city. It was a very happy time, but sad because the house was no longer a part of it.”

Conveniently, Mecija was able to stay with friends in the city before taking off with Ohbijou in September to tour in Europe and the UK, and promote the band’s new album *Beacons*. As we talk on the phone, she’s at her parents house, dropping off boxes and her dog Appleby, preparing for the Western Canadian part of the band’s tour, and while she admits she hasn’t lined up a place to live for when she returns, she doesn’t sound too concerned about it.

“I’m sort of in transit right now. I’m on tour so much that it doesn’t make sense for me to rent a place,” she says.

Although she knows for certain she won’t be returning to the Bellwoods house, Mecija says that she hasn’t ruled out future *Friends in Bellwoods* projects.

“I think with *Friends in Bellwoods*, the name may just become an umbrella for organizing other projects. Maybe in the future we’ll have a show that contributes to other projects. I’m not sure if we’ll have another compilation, but we’ll see [...] Maybe in two years we’ll do a third,” she laughs.

Secret lives of *Poster Boys* and girls

Davina Stewart tells how her character grapples with relationships

theatrepreview

Poster Boys

Written by Michele Riml
Directed by Bradley Moss
Starring Jesse Gervais, Jeff Haslam, Davina Stewart, and Frank Zotter
Roxy Theatre (10708-124 St.)
Runs November 26–December 13 at 8 p.m.
2 p.m. on Sundays. No show Mondays.
\$15-50 at tickets.theatrenetwork.ca

JANNA YING DENG
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Theatre Network’s latest comedy *Poster Boys* features a new spin on true events. Career-obsessed middle-aged executive Caroline (Davina Stewart) is in the midst of an ad campaign for a large credit bank. The two poster boys featured in this ad just happen to be the first same-sex couple in a major marketing campaign. Perhaps this is not an impressive fact, unless you consider that one of the lovebirds happens to be Caroline’s ex-fiance Jack — the man that left her at the altar over a decade ago. The play is an imaginative interpretation of a real Vancity Credit Union ad project, which brought about a strong reaction from Catholic Archbishop Adam Exner.

But according to Stewart, this comedy is not about political or moral controversy but “gay relationships, relationships with people, family relationships, work relationships, and the blurring between them.”

At the centre of all of these overlapping relationships is Stewart’s character, Caroline.

“She is living a lie. When people in these positions are selling something to the public, they can understand people and read them. They know how to spin things so it will work for a product, but they don’t necessarily know how to be honest with themselves.”

DAVINA STEWART
AS CAROLINE IN POSTER BOYS

“She’s dealt with the relationship [with her ex-fiance Jack] by focusing on work, not dealing with that part of her life, so it becomes a story for her about dealing with relationships that didn’t work out [and] how she has to deal with it when she sees him with his partner,” explains Stewart.

Part of Caroline’s coping even involves a little blurring of the lines between herself and her co-workers — particularly with one younger man at the office.

“I have a sort of liaison at work. It’s a power struggle with him, because I’m in charge.



I’m his boss. It’s lovely [and] controversial,” Stewart notes humorously.

But Stewart’s character is not about to be pushed to the sidelines of the story. She has her own issues to face, and plays a strong and important role. Encountering Jack allows her to confront her own self-doubts and fears, and reflect on what she might be missing in life.

“The fear of being alone — it is difficult at times to know what that means,” Stewart ponders. “When you get married there is that moment when you think you’re going to be 80-years-old together, but for her it didn’t last that long. You get a rude awakening when you find it only lasted five years — now what? You have to think of your life in a different way and sometimes that can be terrifying for people, re-imagining who they are going to be. That is her story and what the play is about.”

To compensate for this loneliness, Caroline propels all her energy and time into her career — a move that causes her to question what she has become.

“She is living a lie. When people in these positions are selling something to the public, they can understand people and read them. They know how to spin things so it will work for a product, but they don’t necessarily know how to be honest with themselves,” Stewart adds.

“She has the designer shoes, the designer bag. Expensive purses become status symbols. Caroline has a lot of status symbols in her life, things that cost a lot, but don’t have a lot of value. Sometimes you’re not just paying the price with money, you’re paying the price in other ways. That is what she finds out at the end. She has sort of sold herself on that idea and realizes maybe that is not enough anymore.”

Stewart hopes audiences can see *Poster Boys* as a comedy and a story of individuals rather than a “gay story.” The show reminds us that “the best stories are from real life,” and that understanding yourself is a topic to which everyone can relate.

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PETE YEE

HEADING UP The Pandas grabbed both games in B.C. last weekend to move up in the CIS top 10.

Hardwood Pandas return home after B.C. sweep

Number-nine ranked Alberta ready for another top-10 opponent

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

Fresh off a pair of victories on the west coast against the fifth-ranked Victoria Vikes and the UBC Thunderbirds, the hoop Pandas return home for a pair of heavyweight tilts with the fourth-ranked Regina Cougars.

The Pandas enter the weekend tied with provincial rival Calgary atop the Prairie division standings in the Canada West with a 5-1 record, and will be looking to carry over their solid road play into their first home game since Halloween. The Cougars sit right behind the Pandas and Dinos in the conference standings with a 3-1 record.

Regina defeated Alberta at the Pandas annual Hoopfest Invitational in early October, controlling the play and tempo for the entire game on their way to a 70-57 win. There are, however, many similarities between the two squads and that should result in two tightly contested and entertaining contests this weekend.

"They got the better of us in the preseason, but I like how we're playing right now, and I would take this team into any game right now," head coach Scott Edwards noted.

"Regina and us are really similar type teams — one big forward inside, a bunch of athletic players on the perimeter, and quality point guards."

Against the Cougars, the Pandas will need to establish a presence on the offensive glass if they're to create second chance scoring opportunities. Defensively, the Pandas will need to rebound consistently if they hope to prevent Regina's Brittany Read from having easy put-back baskets.

"Rebounding is going to be huge for us. We need to be consistent with our efforts at both ends of the floor [...] Regina generates lots of opportunities off offensive rebounding and hustle plays," Edwards explained.

Another key for the Pandas will be stopping Regina's starting shooting guard Joanna Zalesiak, who dropped 20 points on the Pandas at Hoopfest. Originally from Poland, Zalesiak played last season at the University of Texas at El Paso and her transfer to Regina has provided them with a strong presence in the backcourt.

"Last time we didn't know much about her as a player, but now we have been able to scout her and be more prepared for her," Edwards said. "We will need to get a hand up and contest every shot and hopefully we're able to make her miss quite a bit."

In the preseason, moreover, Regina opened the game on a 13-4 run and completely took the Pandas out of their rhythm. The Pandas will need to jump off to good starts if they hope to outlast the Cougars this time around.

This weekend's games against Regina mark the start of a tough four-game home stretch for the Pandas going into the Christmas break, which also includes a pair of games against number-two Saskatchewan.

"We have to come out with some confidence in our game. These are two huge weekends and hopefully we can net a few wins and keep our momentum going into [the break]," Edwards stated.

The Pandas and Cougars will renew their Canada West rivalry on Friday and Saturday, with tip-off scheduled for 6 p.m. both nights. The games can also be heard online at pandas.ualberta.ca

WEEKEND START TIMES

BASKETBALL
FRI. NOV. 20 SAT. NOV. 21
Pandas vs. Lethbridge
6 p.m., Main Gym



VS.



Bears vs. Lethbridge
8 p.m., Main Gym



VS.



HOCKEY
FRI. NOV. 20 SAT. NOV. 21
Bears vs. Calgary
7:30 p.m., Clare Drake Arena



VS.



Basket-Bears looking to rebound after tough losses

EMERSON CSORBA
Sports Staff

Following two close losses this past weekend on the road against Victoria and number-two ranked UBC, the Bears basketball team will look to rebound when they host the Regina Cougars (1-3) this weekend. Sitting at 4-2 in the Canada West, the Bears hold second spot in the Prairie division, four points clear of third-place Saskatchewan.

Despite the losses on the road to a pair of tough opponents, the Bears took positives out of their weekend road swing to B.C.

"Our guys played as good defensively as they could against UBC. We had it down tied late in the game, so we're getting close," Francis stated.

Among the bright spots for the Bears this past weekend was Jordan Baker, who dropped 15 and 14 points, each good for team highs against UBC and Victoria. Also standing out for the Bears was Scott Leigh, who amassed five assists, nine points and four rebounds against Victoria.

Jamaal Bucknor and Sahr Saffa also hit double-digits in points in each contest.

"Jamaal's been consistent all year, he's a competitive force inside. The last two weekends have been a coming-out party for Sahr."

"He's really matured defensively, and is playing well for us on both sides of the ball."

Compared to UBC, a perennial

basketball powerhouse, Regina may not look imposing. Still, the Cougars flaunt some players to watch out for. Kris Heshka is leading the team with offensively, averaging 12.5 points per game and is averaging nearly a double-double. Paul Schubach and Sterling Nostedt can dial it up from beyond the arc, while Jamal Williams has been solid as well, averaging 11.5 points and 6 rebounds per game. Jeff Lukomskil, in particular, is on a hot streak, having netted a season-high 25 points in a recent Regina loss to Trinity Western.

Shutting down Heshka and Williams will be a key defensively for the Green and Gold.

"[Heshka] is definitely a tough inside player. Williams is also a versatile player and can knock down big shots for them," Francis said.

Alberta has answers of their own on the offensive end of the floor for the Cougars' sharp shooters. Harvey Bradford, who knocked down 12 points in an exhibition against Gonzaga earlier in the season, routinely scores in the double-digit range.

"He's the heart and soul of our team; his toughness brings us together. He has the sort of experience that makes the younger guys on the team play better," Francis explained.

The Bears also have been one of the conference's best defensive squads through six games this season, ranking third in the Canada West defensively by giving up a stingy 65.7 points per game.



PETE YEE

BAKER'S DOZEN Bears rookie Jordan Baker has been an offensive constant this season, averaging 12 points per game — second best on the team.

With two wins, the Bears, at the very worst will keep themselves tied atop the ultra-competitive Canada West.

"We're getting to a point in the year where we want to see us get better each week. Playing hard and consistent is something that we need to do

all game if we are going to pick up two wins against Regina," Francis said.

The Bears begin play this Friday at 8 p.m. in the Main Gym, and then tip off game two of the doubleheader at the same time on Saturday. The games can also be heard online at bears.ualberta.ca



DANIELLE JENSON

HOME COOKING The Bears return to Clare Drake Arena for the first time in two weeks to face provincial rival Calgary.

Ice Bears ready to return home

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

After two weekends on the road, the Golden Bears hockey squad returns to the friendly confines of Clare Drake Arena this weekend for a pair of games against the Calgary Dinos.

Back-to-back road sweeps over the UBC Thunderbirds and the Lethbridge Pronghorns improved the Bears record to 10-1-1, stretching their lead in the Canada West to four points over second-place Manitoba.

Alberta, the number-two ranked team in the nation, comes into the weekend riding a season-high five-game winning streak, thanks in large part to the conference's top power play.

The Bears have been lethal with the man advantage all season long, clicking at 41.7 per cent through 12 games. Alberta converted on over 50 per cent of their power play opportunities during their four-game road swing, as head coach Eric Thurston's crew went a remarkable 13-for-21 combined against UBC and Lethbridge.

"One thing that I've really been impressed with on our power play is that when we lose the puck, our puck pursuit has just been tremendous," Thurston said.

"It's something that we're going to

continue to work on, and I think if you stick to fundamentals and let your skilled players be skilled guys — move the puck, understanding they have to shoot with traffic in front — with those principles, you'll have success."

"We have to play to our tempo and our level. When we do that, we have more than a fair chance to win. It's a tough thing for teams to do — to play to our level and our tempo."

ERIC THURSTON
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

When the Bears and Dinos met earlier in the season for a home-and-home series, Calgary kept Alberta's power play in check for the most part, holding the Green and Gold to three power play goals on 14 chances over the course of two games. The Bears and Dinos split that weekend series, with the Bears suffering a 3-2 shootout loss in Calgary, before bouncing back at home with an impressive 9-2 victory.

It was a season to forget in Cowtown last year, as the Dinos missed the playoffs for the first time in over two decades, but that's well in the rear view mirror for this edition of the Dinos, as they've been a vastly improved hockey squad to start the year. Former Bear Mark Howell has guided Calgary to a 6-2-2 record in his first season behind the bench as head coach.

"They're strong system-wise; they're going to try to and outwork you, be tough on the attack by driving the lanes and getting pucks to the net, but our focus is to play hard and smart against them."

After letting Calgary, at times, dictate the pace of the game in the two teams' first meeting of the season back on October 9 in the Stampede City, a key for the Bears will be to maintain their up-tempo game.

"We have to play to our tempo and our level. When we do that, we have more than a fair chance to win. It's a tough thing for teams to do — to play to our level and our tempo."

The weekend series will be the Bears final home games of the first half of the regular season, as both games get underway at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday night at Clare Drake Arena, with the broadcast available online at bears.ualberta.ca.

Canada West Standings					
	G	W	L	OL	Pts.
Alberta	12	10	1	1	22
Man.	12	8	3	1	17
Calgary	10	6	2	2	14
Sask.	12	6	5	1	13
Reg'na	12	4	8	0	8
UBC	10	3	6	1	7
Leth.	12	3	8	1	7

Canada West Leading Scorers			
	G	A	Pts.
AB: KLASSEN, Cnrd	9	12	21
SK: DaSILVA, Steven	8	9	17
AB: RINGROSE, Sean	4	13	17

Canada West Leading Goaltenders			
	GAA	SV%	
AB: YONKMAN, Travis	1.97	.941	
MB: CHRISTIE, Steve	2.17	.925	
RG: WARD, Adam	2.26	.925	

TALE OF THE TAPE			
			
6-2-2 (14 points, 3rd in Canada West)	Record (W-L-T)	10-1-1 (21 points, 1st in Canada West)	
-4 (30 for, 34 against)	Goal Differential	+37 (66 for, 29 against)	
Reid Jorgenson (2-8-10) Brock Nixon (5-4-9) Torrie Wneat (6-2-8)	Leading Scorers (G-A-PTS)	Cnrd Klassen (9-12-21) Sean Ringrose (4-13-17) Eric Hunter (8-8-16)	
October 9, 2009 (3-2 SO win vs Alberta)	Last Victory in Series	October 10, 2009 (9-2 win vs Calgary)	
Mark Howe (1st year)	Head Coach	Eric Thurston (5th year)	
Dustin Butler (6-1-1, 2.60 GAA)	Starting Goaltenders	Rea Cyr (4-1-1, 2.97 GAA) Travis Yonkman (6-0-0, 1.97 GAA)	

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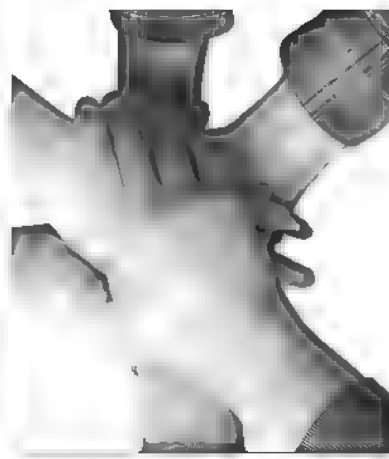
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Fisticuffs and radical changes highlight the Gateway's ideas for NHL rule remodelling



SPORTS
STAFF

Group
Commentary

With the recent chatter amongst NHL GMs to eliminate headshots in the game, a number of ideas have been bounced around about how to improve the game across the board. From radical to rough stuff, here's a look at some rule changes we'd like to see.

Nathan Liewicki

Regular season overtime games are so intense — why? There's way more open ice for players to skate and dangle their way into the offensive zone, and create chances to win the game.

Maybe it's just me, but generally it seems that overtime is defined by the best hockey players in the world — namely Alex “The Great” Ovechkin — creating excitement across arenas, in bars, and homes everywhere in a brief five-minute frame.

Who wouldn't want to see unimaginable passes, unbelievable dekes, or mind-boggling saves from end to end during a full 60 minute affair?

Therefore, I propose that the NHL adopt the rules of four-on-four hockey throughout the entirety of a game, and not restrict it to the OT session. Fan excitement would blossom, especially in smaller markets in the southern United States, and teams would likely find themselves competing on a more level playing field.

True, traditional hockey minds probably would despise the idea, but why not give it a try and see how rapidly the fan base of the league expands? After all, Gary Bettman's dream is to elevate the NHL to the financial level of success enjoyed by the NFL, which enjoys a huge annual surplus.

Four-on-four hockey would undoubtedly enhance the excitement of the game tenfold. Making the switch from five players per side to four would also result in more goals, and what fan isn't in favour of more high-scoring hockey games? Only goalies would object — and, well, too bad for them.

Matt Pretty

The one change I'd make to the NHL

rules is to award three points in the standings for a regulation win. Nothing frustrates me more than when my team is fighting for a playoff spot, loses, and the out-of-town scoreboard for the key game between two teams higher in the standings shows “F/OT” or “F/SO”. Then my guys lose ground on not one, but two teams because neither of them have the chutzpah to actually finish the game in regulation time.

As slow as soccer can be, I think they have the point system right (rugby's is even better, but that's another article) in that they award three points for a win, but only one each for a draw. They put so much more emphasis on a win, which is how it should work — none of this sissy playing for a tie, or overtime. You should be playing for the win every game.

Not only would it open the game up late because teams will be pushing for that extra point, but it would also even out the points distributed throughout the year — every game will be worth three points. Thus, the current dreaded three-point game in the playoff race would be irrelevant. You could win in regulation and even gain some ground on a team that wins in extra time.

Finally, it decreases the influence of the shootout on the standings. While I like the excitement of the shootout as much as anyone, it really is a glorified skills competition and shouldn't have as much influence on the standings as it does. Should one team get an extra point because the other team missed the net on two shots? That's not earning the point — that's having it gift-wrapped and handed to you on a silver platter. There's a reason they don't go to the shootout in the playoffs.

Three points for a win, two and one for an overtime win and loss, and nothing for a loss in regulation. Sequential and sensible. And it will decrease the frustration of fans of middle-of-the-pack hockey teams everywhere.

Bren Cargill

It seems like a nightly occurrence that there's a star player being injured by a vicious, borderline hit. All of this began when the NHL entered into its rule book something that needs to be taken out: the instigator rule. Call me old fashioned, but for the stars of the NHL to be protected fully on the ice this rule needs to be abolished. Think back to the days of the Edmonton Oilers running wild in

the 1980s re-writing the NHL record book. Outside of Mark Messier, the skill players on the Oilers were small guys who needed protection.

Enter Dave Semenko, Dave Brown, and Marty McSorley, who imposed fear in opposing teams which gave guys like Wayne Gretzky and Paul Coffey room on the ice. Look at all of the great teams that the NHL has seen post-expansion and they've all had intimidating, physical players on them. The Islanders had Clark Gillies and Bob Nystrom, the Canadiens of the '70s had “Butch” Bouchard and Larry Robinson, while the Philadelphia Flyers roster contained guys like Dave “The Hammer” Schultz and Bob “Mad Dog” Kelly. Players like these keep the opposition in check and allow for the star players to put on a show.

If you want to improve the product of the NHL, and give Don Cherry one less thing to complain about on Saturdays — get rid of the instigator rule.

Evan Daum

Rule changes are a part of any sport that wants to remain relevant, popular, and healthy. Times change, and so do sports, making rule changes part of a game's evolution. Hockey, which has seen the interpretation of its rules, more than the actual written rules themselves change in recent years (i.e. hooking has always been a penalty, but its interpretation has been more stringent post-lockout) doesn't need a massive overhaul or sweeping changes.

One thing that the NHL needs to change is the trapezoid behind the goal line. The trapezoid, which outlines a specific area behind the net in which the goaltender can play the puck, was a ridiculously contrived rule to eliminate goalies from playing the puck, thus giving forecheckers a better chance of generating scoring chances. While the rule has generated those scoring chances when goalies are caught between going to play the puck and staying in their net, it's hard to make the argument that the number of chances that result from the trapezoid have outweighed those that could've been created by a goalie helping his team break out quickly to generate an odd-man rush the other way.

Playing the puck is a skill goalies should be able to use. Besides, aren't there already enough lines out on the ice to confuse fans in hockey hot-beds like Phoenix?

sportsshots

Compiled by Matt Pretty

Pandas Volleyball

After two comeback wins at Simon Fraser, the number-four ranked Pandas volleyball squad (7-1) will stay on the road this weekend, as they head to Regina for a pair of matches against the number-five ranked Cougars (5-1).

While the sides are evenly matched in many areas, the Pandas have a distinct edge in team aces, digs, and blocks, leading the conference in all three. Alberta's Krista Zubick is leading the way on the net with just under a block-and-a-half per game, including an incredible 15 solo blocks already this year — nine higher than her nearest competitor. Regina will counter with Beth Clark, who is one of the best all-around players in Canada West.

First serve for the ladies will be at 5 p.m. on Friday and 7 p.m. on Saturday.



PETEYEE

Bears Volleyball

The Volley-Bears (4-2) will shake the rust off from their bye weekend and also travel to Regina. For the first time in many students' university careers, the Bears will not go into the weekend leading the conference and will not be ranked number-one in CIS (they're currently ranked number-three).

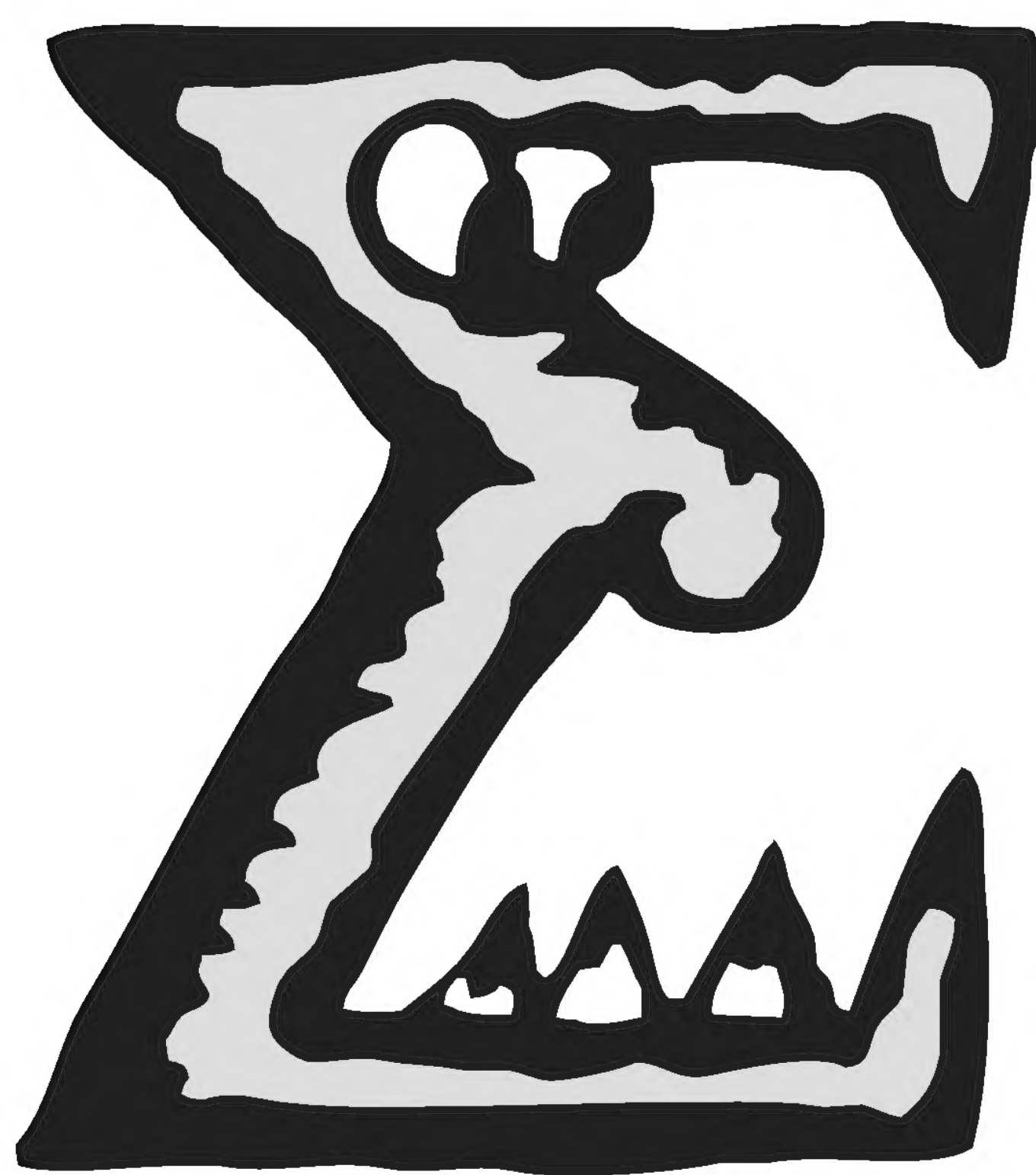
However, the 0-6 male Cougars ought to provide a welcome tonic for

Alberta's 3-2 record over their last five.

Regina is in the Canada West bottom two in every possible statistical category except service aces. The Bears field three of the top ten blockers in the conference in Simon Fraser, Spencer Leiske, and Mike DeRocco, and their net presence will be a key in taking the series.

The action starts at 7 p.m. on Friday and 5 p.m. on Saturday.

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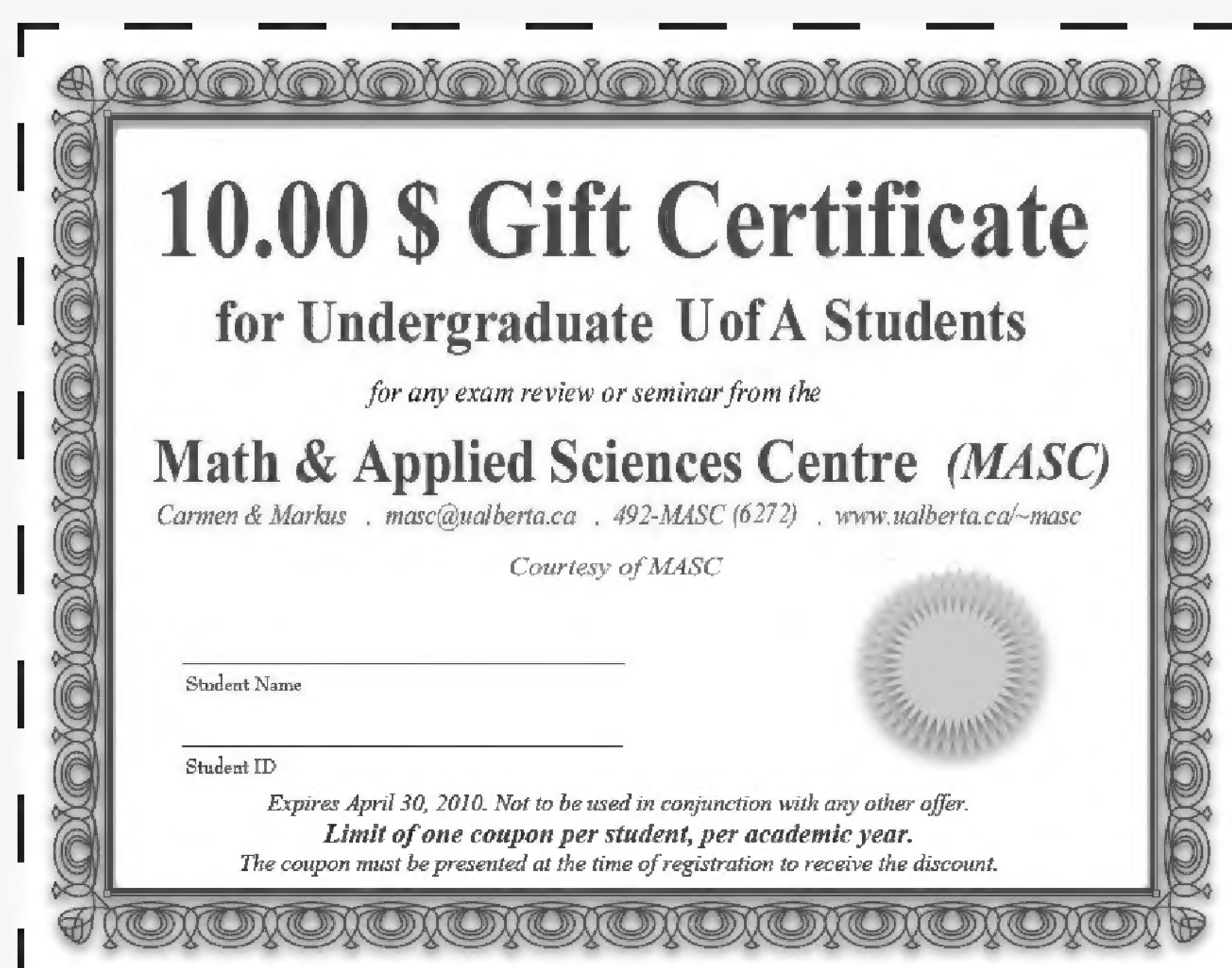
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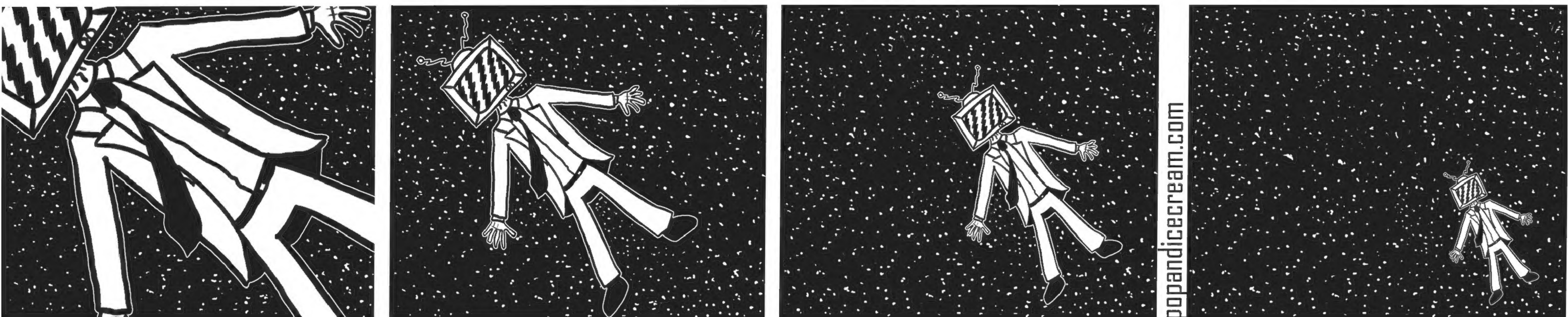
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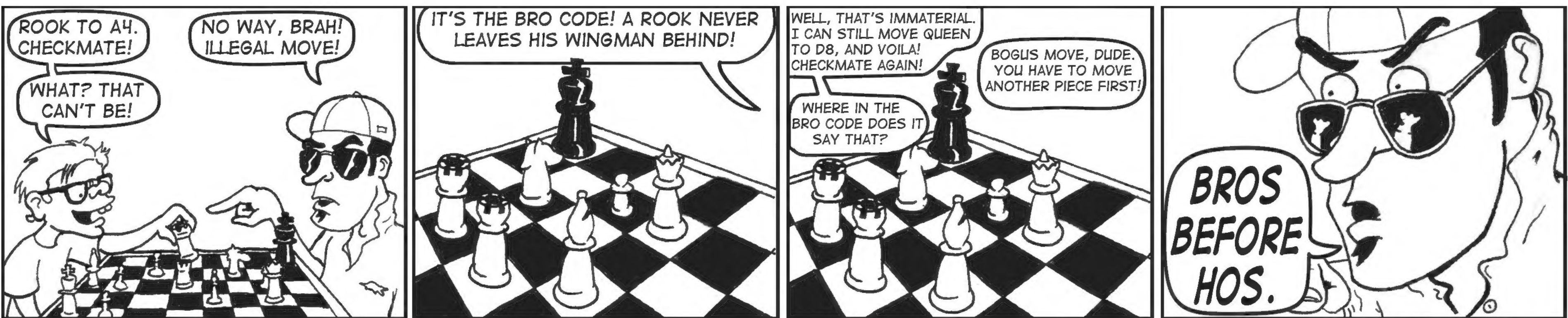
ID & EGO by Lauren Alston



TV HEAD: A SPACE ODYSSEY by Evan Mudryk and Doug Johnson



RENTAL GEESE by Mike Kendrick and Lucas Wagner



astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

Well, this week was quite the exciting one in both science *and* science fiction. I've been having a sustained nerdgasm since Sunday night. That's when the first *Doctor Who* special in months premiered on the BBC. Thanks to the marvels of the Internet I was able to watch it that same night. It was wonderful, dark and scary. Get on the *Doctor Who* train, everyone!

This week we were also meant to enjoy the Leonid meteor shower. Unfortunately, due to those floating water droplets we call clouds, the shower was not so visible from Edmonton. Oh well — we only have to wait a year until the next one!

The space shuttle Atlantis blasted off from

Cape Canaveral on Monday. It was a flawless lift-off that I watched live on my lunch break. Man, the Internet keeps getting better and better. If you go to spacevidcast.com, you can watch live NASA TV, which includes mission coverage for STS-129. The mission will end the morning of November 27, when Atlantis is scheduled to return to Earth.

AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch or check out the FABservatory's site at www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory

The PARAPHRASE Trap
WHICH PASSAGES ARE PARAPHRASED CORRECTLY?

Original Text:
"Research has long pointed to the dramatic power of peer influence in adolescence and young adulthood, but what has not been adequately considered in previous research and prevention strategy is whether this peer influence comes simply from what other peers actually believe is the right thing to do and how they behave, or from what young people think their peers believe is right and how they think most others behave." (p. 8)

Source:
Perkins, H.W., Ed. (2003). *The Social norms approach to preventing school and college age substance abuse*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

- Paraphrases¹:
1. Research shows that young people are susceptible to peer pressure but it is unclear whether or not they actually know what their peers are thinking.
 2. Perkins (2003) claims that, while research has shown that young people are heavily influenced by their peers, no one has looked into whether they know what their peers actually believe or whether they are behaving in ways they think would gain their peers' approval.
 3. While we know that youth are dramatically influenced by their peers, research has not adequately considered where that influence comes from. Perkins (2003) points out that young people might know what their peers believe in terms of the right way to behave, but it is also possible that they are simply making an educated guess.
- ¹ These are to be used as examples only. Please refer to appropriate style guides for the citation style you require.
1. Unacceptable (good paraphrase but no citation)
 2. Acceptable
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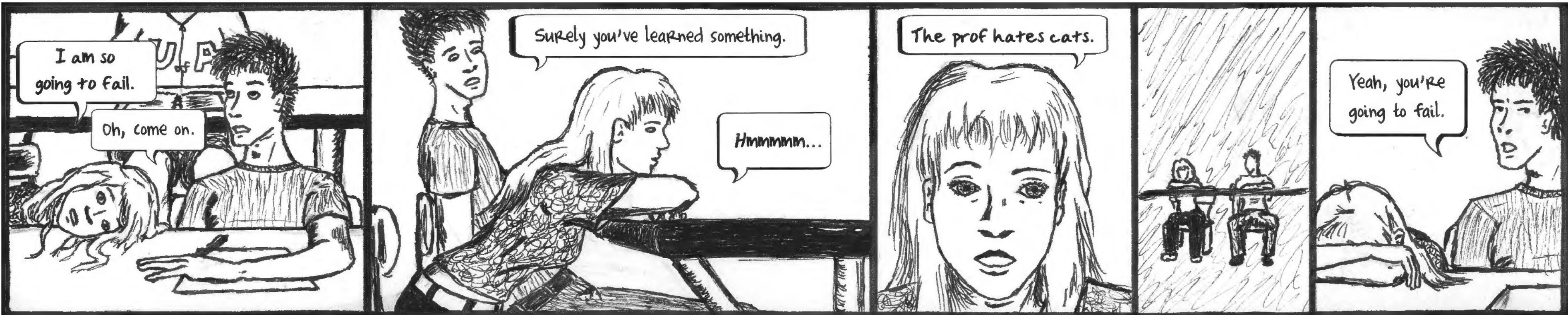
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